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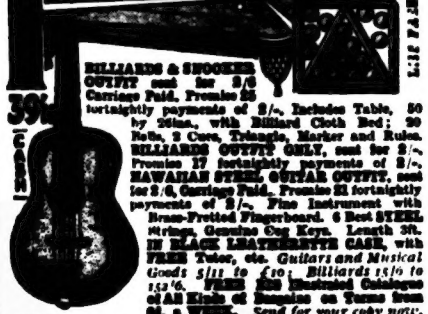

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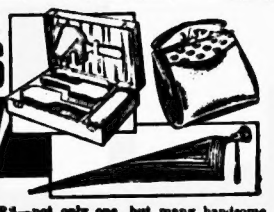

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The old-fashioned weather house with the familiar Darby and Joan figures. When the air is moist and rain imminent, the man comes out, when fine weather is to be expected he retires to the house and out comes the lady. Strongly built and attractive and fitted with reliable thermometer. In three sizes. A suitable Christmas Gift. 1/6, 2/6, 3/6 & 5/-. With reliable clock 7/6. Postage 6d.

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JUST LIKE A PROFESSIONAL

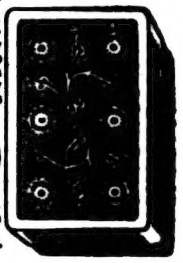
With the aid of the GRAPHOSCOPE anyone can learn easily how to draw freehand perfectly. It reflects the picture or model on to the drawing book or sheet and the artist traces over the reflection. The result is an exact copy. The artist gains valuable knowledge of the important rudiments of sketching, and after a while finds himself able to draw well freehand. Complete with new improved spy-glass, pad, pencil, picture models, and illustrated instructions.

2/11 Postage 6d.

CHINESE LINKING RINGS
Quite easy to do, but very mystifying. Absolutely Astounding Effect.

Since Chung Ling Soo originated this astounding trick, most of us have seen it performed on the stage by various magicians, and have wondered how the trick was done. Our customers and amateur conjurers will be glad to avail themselves of this opportunity to add it to their collection. The secret of the trick is probably one of the best in magic. Full instructions sent. Postage 2d. Price 2/6

MAGIC CARDS FACE VALUE CAN BE READ FROM THE BACK!
OUR LATEST "MOCKER" PACK



Looks the same as any ordinary pack of playing cards, the backs are marked by a wonderful system of secret markings that defy detection. The secret is in the backs of the cards. Per Pack

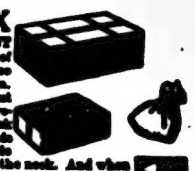
THEY ALMOST TALK TO YOU 5/-

Both the suits and numbers are indicated. Postage 2d. Full illustrated instructions are enclosed with each pack. Two packs, red and blue backs, 10/- post free.

NEW VAMPING CHART

Piano or organ—no teacher needed, surprisingly simple system. Persons having neglected their musical education need not despair, for with the aid of this Vamping Chart—placed upright over the keys—you can at once vamp to thousands of songs, ballads, waltzes, jazz. No knowledge of music required. After using it a few times, you can dispense with it entirely. Postage 2d. Price 6d.

THE MAGIC BOX
A MOST AMAZING TRICK JUST OUT



A sixpence is borrowed from one of your friends and marked by him so that he can recognise it for certain. Taking the coin from him you put your hand in your pocket and produce a dusky looking box. You ask him to drop it and hand it to him a matchbox similarly boxed; inside that is a small bag, tightly sealed at the neck. And when he opens that the coin is inside! The trick is completely mystifying. Full instructions sent. Postage 2d. Price 1/-

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Is made of rubber, inflated like a balloon, and then placed on a chair, couch, mat, etc. When the victim unsuspectingly sits upon the cushion it gives forth noises that can be better imagined than described. Price 1/- 3 for 2/6. Postage 2d.

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A REAL LAUGHTER MAKER
There are doubtless some of your acquaintances who have qualified for free membership of one of these orders and here is the opportunity of providing them with an appropriate souvenir, with their name written in the space provided, ready for framing, size 11" by 8½", printed in two colours. In 6 styles. Liar's Licence, Back Seat Drivers, Nosey Parkers, Gold-digger's Certificate, Flirt's Certificate and Freedom of the City. Price 6d. each. Postage 1½d. Set of 6 for 2/6.

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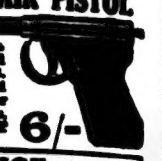
VERY ACCURATE AND POWERFUL



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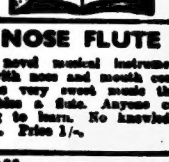

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A really astonishing trick. You have seen it done many times by professional conjurers. Now you can mystify your friends in the same way. You just hold the handkerchief in one hand, run the other down it, and as you do so your audience see it change from red to green. Go through the motions again and it will change once more to red. Really wonderful. Beautifully performed yet most effective. Price 1/6

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Pull the trigger—out pops a cigarette through the muzzle. Protect yourself against holdups, rowdies, etc., with this clever double action Automatic Pistol Cigarette Case. It looks like a genuine automatic. When your friends ask for a cigarette, shoot one to them and see the fun. Postage 2d. Price 1/6

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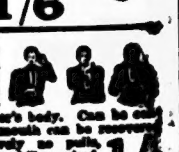

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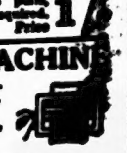
The most amazing little machine ever invented. Place a blank sheet of paper between the rollers, turn the handle and out comes a genuine 10/- or £1 note. Postage 2d. Price 1/-



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"DOUBLE-WAVE"
Comb which
WAVES HAIR WITHOUT HEAT OR ANY OTHER APPLIANCE

at 9d. each, post 2½d. a price that you cannot afford to miss. No matter whether short or long—simply comb your hair to produce beautiful natural waves. No curling irons, bother or mess. Will save you pounds in hair-dressers' bills. The 42 specially shaped teeth give truly amazing results. Your money willingly refunded if not delighted. Send P.O. 1/- at once (stamps not accepted). De Luxe Model in real art tortoise-shell, 2/6 post free.

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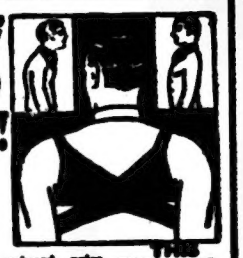

Stop that shocking stooping—look it and be fit. Every man and woman with a tendency to round shoulders should get this Model Brace, made of genuine surgical corsetiere material containing no rubber at the special reduced price of 1/9, post 4d. Adds two inches to your chest, keeps the chest expanded and encourages deep healthy breathing. Quite inconspicuous and comfortable to wear. Highly recommended by physical training instructors and health culture experts. Send P.O. 2/1 now to—

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WITH FILM & FULL INSTRUCTIONS.

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BY ALL THE MOST FAMOUS MAKERS

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3/11 Post 6d.

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SOLID GOLD English Full Jewel Lever WRIST WATCH with Expanding Bracelet Attached. Tested Movement Timed to a minute a month. Fully warranted 10 years. Send 1/- Deposit only for free approval.

If satisfactory balance payable 2/- within 7 days and 2/- fortnightly until £5/5 is paid. Cash with order or within 7 days £5/5 only.

Write for Illustrated list Jewellery, Rings, etc.

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CABINET DARTS YOURS 2/-

The new Dart Board Cabinet shewing an 18in. "Keep-Dry" Regulation Dart Board with adjustable numbers. Correct divisional numbers and centres, strongly mounted in a Double Door Wall Cabinet, size 24 x 24 inches, giving ample room for narrow darts, offering protection to wall and giving appearance of a picture when closed a neat appearance. Price complete, Board, Cabinet, and 6 darts, 25/-. Delivered for 2/- deposit. Balance 5/- monthly.

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This Week 25/- only
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30 DAYS' FREE TRIAL

SEND NAME AND ADDRESS for 30 days' FREE TRIAL. Send now, D. & J. MIR, Ltd., Free Offer Dept., 245, Oxford Street, London, W.1 (over Oxford Circus Tube Station). Hours 10 to 6, Saturdays 10 to 1. *Supplied under National Health Benefit.*

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AT LAST HERE IS A TYPEWRITER THAT WE CAN ALL AFFORD TO OBTAIN.

Standard Typewriters are typed (in ordinary print, but we are offering the famous model which will enable you to type your own letters neatly and without previous experience owing to the special revolving disc. Fitted with spacer, ribbon reverse, double ribbon and paper controllers. Completely self-contained. Visible at all times. Japanned black enamel, lined in gold and red.

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Reduced price to clear 7/11. Post and Packing 1/- extra.

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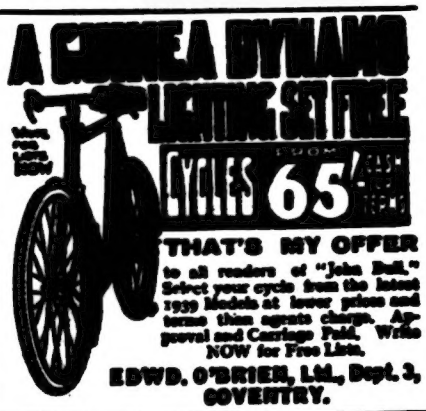

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5/- DOWN

A really high quality 6ft. x 3ft. 6in. table. Heavy base, covered best Billiard Cloth. Best rubber cushions. Solid brass leather-covered pocket plates, fast adjusters. Excellent quality accessories—Two 4ft. hard-wood cues, 11in. turned balls, marking board, chalk and cues. Will give years of enjoyment. Cash price £11.15.0, carr. paid, or 5/- with order, balance by 10 monthly payments of 5/-.

SET OF 17 SNOOKER BALLS, 11lbs. 25/-. Post Free. *Prompt delivery. Cash orders despatched by return. Money refunded if not fully satisfied. Complete catalogue FREE on request from:*

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Size of Table 98in. x 210in.

REAL GOLD PLATED **HUNTER WATCH**

FREE—5/- Pocket-to-Pocket Dress Chain, alternate links, gold and silver plated.

Magnificently engraved watch in flat Dress Model 1939 style. Huge purchase of Manufacturers' Entire Liquidation stock enables us to offer at less than Government Duty price. Warranted 10 years. Timed to a minute a month. Only 5/9, post 6d. Also limited number of Ladies 18ct. dainty wristlets 9/6, post 6d. Value 37/6.

ONLY **5/9** POST 6d.

Warranted for 10 years.

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GENUINE SURPLUS AIRMAN'S GAUNTLETS

2/3 POST 6d

Warm, fleece-lined. Solid leather glove with genuine waterproof gauntlet. Very smart design. Perfect fitting. Warm, supple and certainly smart. 500 pairs only, all sizes. To clear 2/3, postage, etc., 6d.

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PARK DRIVE

for pleasure!

60 FOR 2/- PLAIN OR CORK TIP

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Telephone: Temple Bar 2000.
Thursday, for week ending
Saturday, December 10, 1938.

John Bull

STRAIGHT FROM THE SHOULDER

Now Say Good-bye to the Gloomsters

SIT back and laugh at the prophets of woe.

They predicted that Britain would be irreparably harmed by last October's international scare. They said trade wouldn't recover for years.

Well, Britain is in for the merriest Christmas of modern times.

Set Fair

The shops—those sure barometers of trade—tell us so. People are spending more—much more—than last year. Yet managing to save at the same time.

The little man and his wife have £39,000,000 more in the P.O. Savings Bank than a year ago. Thirty-nine million pounds!

Work and Play

And we're going to have a happy New Year as well.

Big bankers assure us that the threatened trade slump won't come. Instead, Sir John Simon's hint that there'll be no rise in income-tax will stimulate industry.

There'll be more play, too. Next year 9,000,000 workers will receive holidays-with-pay.

WelcomeBreak

That's not enough. We shan't be content until all our workers get the paid holidays which we regard as their right.

We shan't be content until the State provides cheap but good holiday camps for men whose wages don't allow them to save for pleasures.

Still, we can't decry the progress that has been made—the fact that 1939 will bring the tang of the sea to millions who have never been able to escape from the dreary monotony of mill and workshop.

Help for Mother

New centres have been set up in industrial areas where wives and mothers can spend a week free from all domestic cares.

Lord Amulree, describing this move to the Industrial Welfare Society, rightly says that the housewives' week is "one of seven days, not of six or eight hours a day, but continuous."

He's right. But he should have added that holiday homes for work-weary mothers shouldn't be left to private enterprise, but helped by the State.

Holiday homes for all! That should be the nation's aim.

Bright New Year

What else will 1939 bring? Big social reforms, a new war against mankind's greatest scourge—cancer; above all, we trust, a lasting concord between the nations.

So rejoice at the discomfiture of the gloomsters. Do your bit to make this Christmas the joyous festival it should and *will* be!

Brave Front

There'll be big problems to tackle in the New Year, of course. But let Britain face the future with cautious though justifiable optimism, and no problem will be insuperable.

Biggest of all is the question of our country's security.

Tax more? Borrow more? Opinions differ on how to foot the arms bill. But welcome the bigger loan limit on this account: It will tell the world that Britain means business.

We must be strong, but as John Bull has told its readers, and tells them again this week, the way to peace is by negotiation, not by the menace of the mailed fist.

Remember, too, that Britain has aggressive designs on no one. Our arms are defensive; we'll use them, if we do, only to protect our homes and Empire and the ideals of liberty and justice for which we stand

Tax these Profits

By all means borrow more, if need be, Sir John! But don't hesitate to tax where it's fair and feasible the immense profits—some open, some disguised—which arms firms are making from the nation's pocket. Take them back, Mr. Chancellor!

Make it Worth While

To borrow is to shift the burden on to future generations. If we're asking our children to pay the piper, we owe it to them to call the tune. Spend boldly, but thriftily, Sir John. And give us value for money!

Stop the Leaks

Revise the whole system of defence contracting. Reconsider the idea of a super Defence Minister, of a Minister of Supply to stimulate and control arms production.

Stem the unnecessary leakages from the public purse. Close up the gaps in the national armour. And do both at once!

Cash for Cures

Plan to prevent ill-health! Plan to cure it, too!

Hospitals receiving regular incomes from workers' contributory schemes should pay 20 per cent. to the honorary medical and surgical staffs.

That's the demand of the British Medical Association.

Two kinds of hospitals in this country: municipal and voluntary. In the former, doctors are paid; in the latter, unpaid.

That's unfair, say the B.M.A., wherever the voluntary hospitals are being paid by their patients.

State Hospitals

It's also, they argue, inexpedient—doctors being attracted, in consequence, to municipal rather than voluntary hospitals.

John Bull has the remedy. Abolish distinction between the two kinds of hospital. Give us a unified State medical service. Treat all according to their need; pay doctors according to their deserts.

Forgotten in the Fight

Here's more scope for co-ordination. An unemployed man has a maintenance order against him in respect of a wife and two children. The magistrate knocks the order down from 13s. to 5s. a week.

Sequel: The Unemployment Assistance Board dock the man's allowance. The magistrate, protesting at what he calls the Board's interference with the Court, reduces the order still further.

This conflict raises a big issue of principle; judiciary *versus* officialdom. Fight it out! Certainly! But, meanwhile what's happening to the wife and children?

"Stuck-up" Stanwell

Another conflict: this one between justice and local pride. Inhabitants of Stanwell, Middlesex, protest against the erection of a women's prison and Borstal Institution in their picturesque village.

Why worry? It'll be a modern prison. So it won't look like a prison. And, to judge from the tendency of Sir Samuel Hoare's new Criminal Justice Bill, it soon won't even be called a prison.

Why fear the village will lose its good name when prisons are losing their bad one?

Sir John Simon shouldn't hesitate to raise taxes—against those who can well afford to pay

Cheap and Nasty

But a section of the Press is earning itself a bad name for its sensational treatment of the razor-slashing crimes at Halifax.

See what has happened! The excessive publicity has not merely whipped up a town's fear, but induced unbalanced persons in other places to imitate the Halifax maniac—to say nothing of silly girls who seek notoriety by inventing assaults upon themselves.

Moreover, sensation-mongering newspapers should realise that their tawdry antics provide ammunition for those who seek to muzzle the Press for very different reasons.

Sir Philip Responds

Eleven months ago we told Sir Philip Game, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, that he would have to amend the Hendon Police College scheme.

Last week we told you that he has agreed to most of the reforms we suggested. Not before time!

Blocking Promotion

See how the Hendon College has blocked promotion for the real policemen. At present there are twenty promotion vacancies in the C.I.D., and no fewer than 130 detectives qualified for them!

So good detectives are being asked to transfer back to the uniform branch in which there is more chance of a step up.

But this week we can report a further item of good news for the men in blue. The obnoxious plan for recruiting short-term police officers is to be abolished.

Ministry Makes Touts

BRITAIN'S biggest racket is the coupon-trading which is now being carried on by scores of syndicates up and down the country.

A new race of middlemen-parasites is raising the price of household commodities by shackling retail shopkeepers to a system under which customers are found for them in exchange for heavy cash payments.

The method by which the syndicates recruit these customers is to send touts from door-to-door, offering loans at high interest to working-class housewives.

* * *

But the loans are not given in money. They are in the form of coupons negotiable only at the shops brought into the rings.

This form of trading is prejudicial to public interest.

Moreover, it is open to challenge under the Moneylending Acts.

Yet facilities for its growth are being given by the Ministry of Labour.

Posts as "salesmen" are announced as vacant by the employment exchanges.

A workless man is ordered to take one. He is engaged on a small wage and commission basis—and finds that he has become a doorstep tout for one of the moneylending-cum-trading concerns.

Refusal of the work would, of course, render him liable to loss of unemployment benefit for himself and his family.

No doubt the Ministry of Labour is unaware of the real nature of the jobs to which it is sending unemployed men. Its failure to investigate makes its guilt the greater.

- **Meet the Part-Time Heroes**
- **Five Years' Notice**
- **Love's L. s. d.**

Voice of the People

PLEASE tell me a better charity than this.

I am honorary chairman of a fund run by boilermakers in Southampton to assist old age pensioners, sick members of our union, and widows.

In less than two years we have collected £878 and distributed £752 of it—with *total* expenses of 6s. spent in postage!

That money has come from men on short time. In many cases the sacrifices they have made deserve the much-abused word "heroic."—T. E. Williams, Prospect Villa, 8, Obelisk Road, Woolston, Southampton.

When we look up our dossiers, where we have filed details of "charities" expending up to 99 per cent. on expenses, we realise what those part-time workers have achieved.

Five-Year Plan

So often one hears of the summary dismissal of old servants with hardly any warning, and still less money, that I thought this contrast would be refreshing:

My father, who has been employed by a leading Yorkshire firm for thirty years, has just been given five years' notice—surely a record!—A. Snowden, 56, Palmerston Road, Earlsdon, Coventry.

Hair-Raising?

Being quite as bald as a billiard ball, I often get amusement by watching the faces of door-to-door salesmen who call to sell me shampoos, hair oil and the like.

The other day, however, a somewhat shy vendor of hair requisites, who mumbled his sales talk into his attaché-case as soon as I opened the door, so lost confidence on raising his eyes to my shining pate that he took to his heels and ran!—Samuel Peplow, 227, Warren Farm Road, Kingstanding, Birmingham.

Quick Work

Here's a bouquet, G.P.O. Catch!

My uncle posted a birthday greeting to my brother at 8 p.m., believing it would arrive next day.

It was collected, taken to the sorting office, stamped, sorted and delivered, all within an hour.—S. G. Hodge, 263, Lea Bridge Road, Leyton, E.10.

We posted a letter to ourselves as a test. It was back within an hour and a half.

Down to Earth

Design aeroplane wings so that they are capable of being filled with non-inflammable gas. Then fit a device capable of making such gas and pumping it into the wings whenever an aeroplane gets into difficulties.

I don't suggest that a dive to earth could be checked, but surely the pilot would be given more time to regain control or look round for a suitable landing-place.—J. C. Watts, 145, Blackhorse Road, Walthamstow, E.17.

Hundreds of suggestions that lighter-than-air gases should be used in aeroplanes—usually the fuselage is mentioned—reach the Air Ministry every year. But the biggest machines offer negligible space for such gas, wouldn't carry enough to make any noticeable difference.

Love or Money?

Day after day young people seek magisterial permission to get married. Nearly always their parents have refused such permission on the grounds that the young man's income isn't enough.

Does this mean that parents generally are turning against the old "love in a cottage" or "love in an attic" idea? If so, it is a pity. Some of the happiest couples one meets were married before the war on £1 or so a week.—W. R., Hampstead.

True. Yet probation officers find that of every ten broken marriages six have been shipwrecked on the reefs of acute money shortage.

Coming up to London with his camera to see the sights, Reader Winstone, of Bristol, saw nothing more interesting than the "kiddies'" toy-market in Holborn, which is a feature of the Christmas season.

By the way, notice mother's restraining hand!

Dearth in Dogs

Many millions of dogs are born every year—*but not one, as far as I can discover, between March 31 and July 1 of any year.*

I know this as a Post Office worker who has to issue dog licences.

These should be taken out when a dog is six months old. And I have never yet—in ten years—had to issue one in the last three months of a year.—H. R. S., Glasgow.

Allow for the gentle irony of our reader—and the fact remains that, so long as every dog licence expires on December 31, honest people are going to be encouraged to practise minor dishonesty.

Sins of the Fathers

My mother divorced my father. I am not apportioning blame. All I know is that prospective employers ask first what my father is and then where he works. I find myself compelled to tell them the truth, and then, however impressed they may have been before, they suddenly lose interest in me.

In the name of common fairness, can anybody tell me why?—B. W., Bury Old Road, Bury, Lancs.

We want more such stories from people who have been treated like ticket-of-leave men for reasons beyond control. Then we might be able to make the fur fly.

Schoolgirl Complexion

No girl can help being pleased at being taken for less than her real age, but there is a limit to the pleasure.

For instance, I have just been asked my age at a cinema where an "A" picture was being shown.

And I had turned thirty, six months before!—Miss I. Lennard, 5, Ruthven Road, Liverpool, 21.

Class Z

Most big employers are making a census of their staffs to find out which men are liable to be called up as members of the Forces, Reserves, A.R.P., fire-fighting services and the like.

In many cases, men who served in the Great War are being put down as "reservists" just because demobilisation was carried out by transferring a man to a fictitious Class Z Reserve.

Has Class Z any meaning to-day?

In other words, are employers correct in classifying ex-Servicemen of this kind as "reservists"?—H. S. M., Dulwich, S.E.

War Office says: "Members of Class Z of the Army Reserve were automatically discharged from any liability to serve on March 31, 1920." Those employers are therefore wrong.

We want to know what you are thinking about, what you've seen or done. So write to the "Voice of the People," 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

We pay 10s. 6d. for each letter published and an extra 10s. 6d. if we use your own drawing or photograph illustrating the letter.

And there are other pages where you can help us to help you.

A. G. Gardiner ..... *Page* 15
Sir Wyndham Childs .... *Page* 17
Human Documents ..... *Page* 32
True Story ..... *Page* 34

Recruits to Dunces' Corner

AT the opening of the first railway line, No. 1 engine ran from Stockton to Darlington. That was in 1825.

To-day, more than a century later, there is no direct passenger line between the two towns.

What used to be a twelve-minute journey takes half an hour, necessitates a change.

Unfortunately, none of the railway directors travel on this section of the line.

Some of us think they should be compelled to!—T. J. Prior, 3, Larchfield Street, Darlington, Co. Durham.

* * *

WHEN my father went bankrupt, mother undertook responsibility for paying our telephone bills.

The Post Office insisted that she paid the installation fee all over again, and when she refused to part with the full fee said she would have to use an old-fashioned type of pedestal telephone.

But they left the modern type 'phone behind and decline to remove it. It comes in very useful for our dramatic society.—E. L. M., Ledbury, Hereford.

* * *

I WROTE to a Ministry in Whitehall. Let us call it Ministry A.

They wrote informing me that it was a matter concerning Ministry B, to whom they had passed my letter.

Ministry B informed me they had sent it to Ministry C, whose business it was—whereupon Ministry C informed me that it had been passed to Ministry A for attention.

Ministry A, to whom I had written in the first place, were very helpful indeed—and informed me with every politeness that such enquiries as mine should *always* be sent to them. Very helpful.—G. B., Sheffield.

* * *

SEATS have been provided in the county town of Dumfries.

In letters four inches high, in relief, they are labelled "For the Sick Poor."

So the sick poor hurry by.—V. Dow, 148, Easterhill Street, Tollcross, Glasgow.

WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOUR

DEMOCRACY'S WORST ENEMIES

IT strikes us that some of the people who go about calling for "the defence of democracy" are threatening to become democracy's worst enemies.

You know the sort we mean. They shout for freedom, but they do not wish to grant freedom to others. They attack dictators, but try to be small dictators themselves. No arguments but their own must be heard.

An example of their methods was seen not long ago at Leicester, when bitter protests were made against a plan for a gathering there of Germans in Britain.

The meeting was to have been religious, not political. Yet the opposition was so noisy that the Germans had to abandon it.

Doubtless they have been wondering ever since where our vaunted "democratic tolerance" differs from "Fascist intolerance. . . ."

Another piece of stupidity, small, but significant, occurred just before that at Lytham St. Annes, when misguided demonstrators tore down a swastika banner from a display of flags of all nations.

In London, democracy's unwanted "defenders" have been particularly busy.

THEY created disorder in Piccadilly Circus to protest against the visit to this country of Germany's Foreign Minister, Herr von Ribbentrop.

"Keep him out!" they chanted as they fixed a banner to the statue of Eros and held up the traffic for twenty minutes.

"Keep him out!" they roared again when it was believed that General Goering was to visit this country.

They boo Hitler and Goering when they see them on the newsreels (and sometimes the commentator has, by biased words, encouraged them to boo!).

They hiss German footballers on a sports tour.

THEY ARE, IN THEIR WAY, AS VIOLENT AND TYRANNICAL AS THEY SAY THEIR ENEMIES ARE.

Britain is not the only democracy afflicted with these fools. You probably read the other day how a "League for the Defence of American Democracy" protested against the admission into the United States of Leni Riefenstahl, the German actress.

"There is no room for her here!" they shouted in full-page advertisements. "Close your doors to all Nazi agents."

AND in Australia demonstrators recently broke up a harmless meeting at which the German Count Felix von Luckner had been talking.

All in the defence of democracy, of course. All in the cause of free speech and tolerance . . .

Now, you may not like your next-door neighbours, but you have to live with them. If the fence between your gardens is blown down, you may have to discuss with them how to put it up again. Jeering at them won't get the work done. Certainly you don't have to kiss them; but you will not necessarily sacrifice any principles if you co-operate with them in the repairs.

That is why we condemn our undemocratic democrats, and ask you to notice several things about them.

THEIR WEAPONS ARE NOT COOL REASON, BUT RAGING EMOTIONALISM; NOT TOLERANCE, BUT INTOLERANCE; NOT CONCILIATION, BUT BLARING RUDENESS; NOT THE PATIENT CONSIDERATION OF A PROBLEM, BUT BLUSTERING ULTIMATUMS; NOT DISCUSSION, BUT BOYCOTT.

And those are not democratic qualities at all. They are the supreme marks of Fascism.

FOR such people do not really understand the meaning of this word "democracy" which is always on their lips. They are for freedom—if the freedom is for them.

If they were good and wise democrats, they would not always be telling representatives or members of nations they do not like to "get out" and "go home."

They would encourage men and women from the dictatorships to come and travel in Britain. They would be saying to them: "Come along and see this and that fine thing we have done. We believe you won't see its equal anywhere."

THEY WOULD DO THESE THINGS—IF THEY WERE GOOD AND SINCERE DEMOCRATS—IN THE CONFIDENT HOPE THAT THE VIRTUES OF DEMOCRACY AND FREEDOM WOULD BEGIN TO DAWN ON FOREIGN VISITORS; THAT NEW IDEAS WOULD BE PUT IN THEIR MINDS; THAT THEY WOULD GO HOME SHAKING THEIR HEADS AND SAYING, "WELL, PERHAPS THIS DEMOCRACY IS WORTH THINKING ABOUT."

Victimising individual Germans won't convert them from Fascism to freedom, on the contrary, it will make them believe more firmly in their own countrymen's boos and boycotts.

DO we not believe to the bottom of our souls that democracy is the one system of Government that is consistent with the happiness and the dignity and the progress of man?

Surely we must feel that our best blow for democracy can be struck by showing democracy in our personal behaviour—by showing courtesy to others, by refusing to meet bluster with bluster, by scorning to try to counter intolerance with a fresh intolerance.

We know perfectly well how deep and genuine is the righteous anger felt by British people at the oppression of the weak, at cruelty to the defenceless, at the persecution of the innocent.

We see how deep is the desire, somehow or other, to express our condemnation in a vivid way.

BUT WHEN WE SEE ORGANISED ATTEMPTS TO BOYCOTT THIS OR THAT CONTACT BETWEEN OURSELVES AND OTHER PEOPLE—CONTACT IN SPORT, OR IN CULTURE, OR IN DIPLOMACY—WE ASK OURSELVES THE GOOD OLD DEMOCRATIC QUESTION: "WHAT GOOD DOES IT DO?"

What good does it do if British and French statesmen are welcomed in Germany or Italy by peoples and Governments and yet no Italian or German statesman can come here for fear of "incidents"?

The average German or Italian, ready to be friendly with the British people, must rub his eyes and wonder just what our democracy is worth if it cannot stand contact with those who have different political views.

Do we wish to serve democracy, to encourage its return to lands which have banished it and its spread to countries which have never known it?

Then let us not be petty and fearful. Let us not be furious, seeking to injure and anger others.

Let us live our democratic faith the whole time. Let us leave the political stock-in-trade of other systems to those that believe in them.

THAT IS THE ONLY SORT OF "DEMOCRATIC FRONT" IT WILL EVER PROFIT US TO PRESENT.

Democrats-gone-mad even drove Leni Riefenstahl, the German actress, from Hollywood

One of the objects of the Criminal Justice Bill, now before Parliament, is the more humane treatment of young offenders. Three years ago JOHN BULL described the first "Q" Camp, where psychologists were to train young rebels against society into useful citizens. What has the experiment achieved? Here a Special Investigator answers that question, and tells you about the—

Miracle of the "Q" BOYS

HE came from a working-class home in West London, and was a thoroughly bad lad. It was impossible to control him, he defied his family and ran wild in the neighbourhood.

So much so that one of his elder brothers walked out of the home because of the youngster's conduct. Both his father and mother gave him up in despair.

"We can do nothing with him," said the father when the boy was brought before a juvenile court. "I think he is possessed of a devil. There is something about him we just can't understand."

On the recommendation of a probation officer, the boy was sent to the "Q" Camp.

At first he was a misfit. He fought with the other lads, refused to do the tasks that were given him, and generally made himself a nuisance.

But, after a while, idleness grew boring, and the boy became more malleable.

It was found that he was so backward that, although he had attended an elementary school, he could barely read and write.

Love of Art

Step by step—but only as he wanted to do things—he was taken through the rudiments of reading and writing. All the time he was being studied by a medical psychologist.

This expert noticed that the boy was taking every opportunity to draw rough figures and strange scrawlings. He used to scribble his elementary outlines everywhere, and always the chief thing in them was a head.

The psychologist gave his advice: "This lad, I think, has the urge of an artist. We must endeavour to bring out that urge."

So the boy was taught to draw. He made great progress, and his portrait studies were excellent.

They had a boldness which indicated latent genius.

Eventually some of his work was submitted to artists in London and they all said. "These drawings are admirable. With more training, the boy might make a name for himself."

New Being

But the discovery of a young artist is not the important part of this story.

What matters most of all is that, from the moment he was encouraged to draw, all the boy's rebellious temper vanished.

He became tremendously interested, not only in his work, but in everything about the camp.

The misfit had found his vocation and recaptured a normal personality.

His ambition is to do poster work, or become a cartoonist, and paint pictures in his spare time—if he has any.

I think he will succeed.

It is remarkable how many boys in the "Q" Camp have a dormant love for art.

Let me tell you another story.

The boy concerned also broke the hearts of his parents and frayed the nerves of his teachers.

Down at the Camp he was asked what he thought he would like to be, and replied that he supposed he would have to be a clerk like "the rest of my lot."

He was given lessons in shorthand and book-keeping, but he was not the least interested in either subject. He was careless, lazy, dirty.

Whenever he was Camp orderly he sulked in his bunk, and someone else had to take over his work.

It so happened that the boy, with several others, was sent to London for a medical examination, and as a treat was afterwards taken to see a performance of ballet dancing.

From that time the boy was transformed. He spent hours practising dancing and trying to imitate the ballet steps he had seen. He persuaded some of the other boys to dance under his instruction.

Instructors at the Camp sought the advice of a famous ballet producer, who saw and talked to the boy.

As a result he has been granted a scholarship to a ballet school, where he is now a star pupil of his class, and has a maintenance grant from a county education authority.

"He has an uncanny instinct for production, colour and effect," says the ballet master of the boy from the "Q" Camp.

Another misfit has fitted in.

These two cases are typical examples of what the "Q" Camp can do by a scientific study of the gifts and inclinations of the boys with whom others fail.

Without such intelligent supervision and guidance the boys would certainly remain rebels against authority; possibly they might become habitual criminals and a burden to the State.

And remember that the "Q" Camp is only just emerging from the experimental stage.

Make Own Laws

It is less than three years since the Camp Chief, his deputy, and an assistant took over a thirty-acre field behind an Essex village, and set up three old Army bell-tents.

All the buildings which now form the Camp have been erected by the boys. Recently they have tapped a hidden water spring, laid pipe lines, and built a complete and efficient bath house.

Of the first twenty-five boys who entered the Camp, fourteen were from London, and the others from provincial towns.

Most of them had been sent by magistrates of juvenile courts and probation officers. The Institute for the Scientific Treatment of Delinquency gave five nominations.

Since then, many boys have passed through the Camp. Nearly all have been found jobs, or have been transferred to occupational training.

Right from the start, the control of the Camp has been vested in those who live in it.

The boys govern themselves, and make their "laws" round a committee table.

Says the Camp Chief: "There has never been, and probably never will be, the ordered routine and 'spick-and-spanness' of an ordinary institution. There has been grumbling, rebellion and many crises.

"You see, if a boy does not want to work, he need not work. There are no punishments. But the 'won't-works' soon discover that some kind of duty and interest is preferable to idleness."

The elementary rule that these misfit boys learn is that no one can get along without his neighbours, and that to be comfortable and happy they must abide by the rule of the majority.

Pocket-money, varying from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. a week, is given to the boys on a system of points which are awarded for keeping Camp rules. In this way the best boys get the most advantages.

So far I believe that this first "Q" Camp has proved its success, but the official mind has yet to be satisfied.

When that is achieved other camps, including one for girls, will be formed.

Meanwhile, the experiment remains entirely unofficial, though it has the support of the Home Office.

Idleness and the squalor of the slums turn many a brilliant boy into an enemy of law and order

Don't Take Chances . . .

IS it aired?

That question is asked in the biggest mansions and smallest homesteads in the land.

The bigger homes, where laundrymaids are employed, have special airing rooms to ensure that a change of linen and a bad cold don't go together.

*

And to-day the smaller houses have airing cupboards, kept at a uniform heat by kitchen boilers.

In thousands of older homes there is still a complete lack of airing facilities.

In these homes the rather antiquated clothes-horse—cause of so many domestic fires—has a permanent place.

There is one such house in Northumberland where the householder had adopted an idea of general utility.

It entailed fixing garments to a line and raising them, by means of a pulley, to the level of the mantelpiece.

*

For months it worked quite well—until the pulley slipped and the clothes hanging on it fell to the level of the fire blazing in the hearth. They burst into flames.

A letter to the department concerned with JOHN BULL'S unique free family insurance gift brought a ready response. That department is used to such claims.

*

It has, in fact, met countless applications from people who have been the victims of clothes catching fire while they are being aired.

And so a JOHN BULL cheque in respect of the damage was sent to the householder concerned.

It is amazing how many different ways there are in which JOHN BULL'S free insurance scheme can help you.

And all that is necessary is your signature on a coupon which we print every week—and which appears on page 39 of this issue.

*

It might be that the first accident in your home will be a minor one such as this. Let's hope so.

But it might also be something far worse—the destruction of all your furniture.

At such a time you would be thankful that you had signed that coupon on page 39.

BRYN ROBERTS, *General Secretary of the National Union of Public Employees, speaks for 100,000 men and denounces*

Their PAY-DAY NIGHTMARE

ONE hundred thousand men in Britain, most of whom have wives and children, have to suffer privation, indignity and humiliation before they can touch the wages they have earned.

They are the men who keep our roads in repair, and they are employed by county councils which, despite their wealth, still live in the days before the first Truck Act was passed.

Almost every industry in the country pays its labourers weekly and in cash.

But more than fifty of the sixty-two county councils in England and Wales refuse to follow this lead. They consider it "too much trouble."

SO THEY PAY THEIR WORKERS FORTNIGHTLY—AND, JUST TO MAKE THINGS MORE DIFFICULT, BY CHEQUE!

This does not matter very much when dealing with reasonably paid officials.

But when such a system involves the roadmen, whose wage level is even lower than that of the so-called "sweated" trades, it constitutes one of the gravest blots on local government in this country.

Eight county councils pay their roadmen less than 35s. a week. Forty-two pay them rates varying from 35s. to 45s. Many roadmen would be better off on the dole.

So you can see quite easily what hardship a fortnightly pay-packet—and one which they cannot spend until they have persuaded some publican or tradesman to cash the cheque—means to the man and wife who have to plan their slender budget weekly.

With only 35s. or £2 coming in, they cannot get credit for a longer period.

What happens? They get into debt; run the risk of facing at least one day a fortnight without a penny in the house to buy food.

That frequently happens when they have been unable to cash the council's cheque.

FOR people with such small means cannot be expected to run bank accounts; and, even if they could, the nature of the men's work, which takes them out into the by-ways, makes it almost impossible for them to reach a bank during the hours it is open.

So the women have to deal with local tradesmen who are obliging enough to cash wage cheques for them, and who in many cases put up their prices, because they know the helpless housewives cannot go elsewhere.

No indictment which I could write could bring home to you the seriousness of this menace more clearly than the stories of the roadmen themselves.

Let me introduce you to one who is employed by the rich county of Buckinghamshire. I do not give his name, because that would be unwise. He says:

"There is plenty of joy in receiving my fortnightly wage cheque, but there is just as much sorrow in getting the wretched thing cashed.

"I leave home for the depot at 6.30 a.m. The postman delivers my cheque at 7 a.m.

"If I stayed behind to endorse it, I would be late on the job and run the risk of being sacked.

"So my wife has to follow me by 'bus. Even if she does find me, the ride back to the bank will cost her 2d.—2d. that we can ill afford.

"If I am sent to a different job and she cannot find me, then she must postpone her shopping, despite the bare pantry, until the next day.

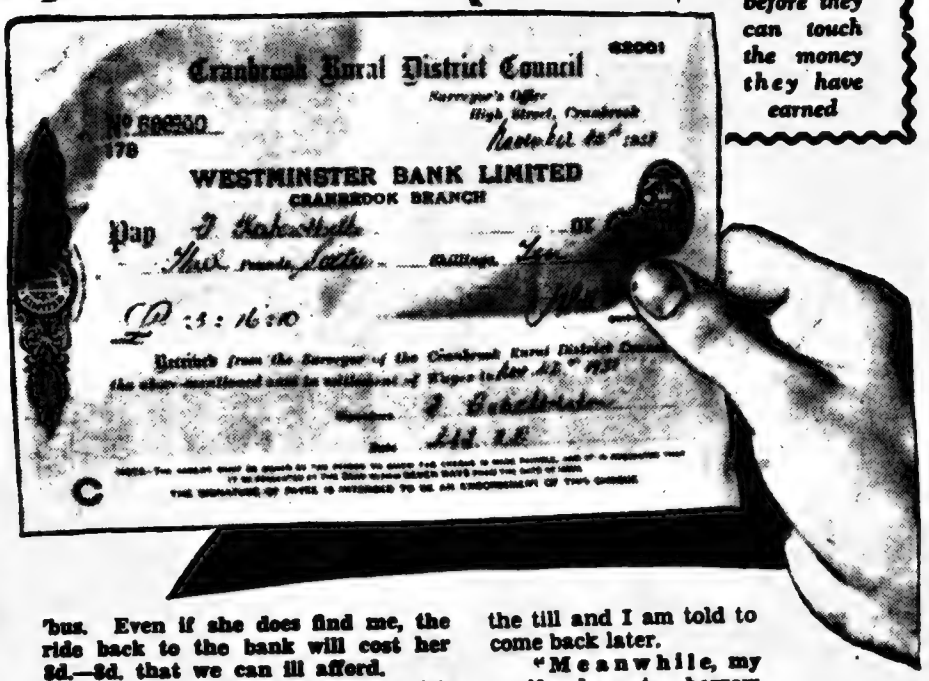
"Because, when I return, the bank will be closed, and I have to go 'pub crawling' in the hope of getting my cheque cashed by an accommodating landlord.

"More often than not I don't want a drink. It's a luxury I can rarely afford. But I must buy at least two glasses of beer, or the landlord's black looks will make it pretty plain that there is no use asking him to cash my wage cheque in future."

I wonder if the Buckinghamshire County Council, which pays its roadmen a mere £4 a fortnight, realises that its cheque system compels the men to buy drink they don't want, and causes their wives to waste money on 'bus fares—just for the "privilege" of handling the money they have earned.

If the Council does realise it, then it is hard-hearted indeed.

Cheques like the one you see here don't bring smiles on pay day. The working men who receive them have to hawk them round public-houses and village shops before they can touch the money they have earned



JOHN SMITH—that is as good a name as any—is employed by the Kent County Council. He says:

"I earn my wages honestly, and if the councillors knew the embarrassment I suffer in changing my pay cheque they would, if they were reasonable men, pay me in cash.

"Our village bank opens only one day a week, and I never get home from work before its doors are shut.

"As a rule, I have to change my cheque at a local shop, which is usually filled with nosey-parkers. Frequently, however, there is not enough money in the till and I am told to come back later.

"Meanwhile, my wife has to borrow sixpences and shillings from neighbours to prevent our little family from going hungry that day.

"Heaven knows, we have a lean enough time as it is."

From Wiltshire comes the story of a roadman's wife whose children were crying for food.

She could not get her husband's cheque cashed at the local shop because the proprietor had not enough money.

THERE was only one way out. She would have to take the cheque to the bank some miles away, but then it could be changed only if it bore her husband's endorsement—and he was at work.

The wife thought for a moment, and then sat down and copied her husband's signature.

When she pushed the cheque over the bank counter the signature was questioned at once, and the wife admitted what she had done.

Fortunately, the bank manager was more considerate than the county council, otherwise the consequences might have proved serious. He advanced the woman 5s. until her husband could be fetched.

Now, there are many distinguished public men sitting on Wiltshire County Council. Can they justify a system of paying wages which forces a wife to commit forgery?

An Essex County Council roadman tells me of the time when his cheque did not arrive until Christmas Day, when, of course, with every shop shut, it was quite impossible to get it changed.

Had the man's neighbours not been kindly people, he and his family would have had no Christmas dinner.

Another man, employed by the same council, was unfortunate enough to have his cheque go astray in the post. It did not arrive until three days before his next pay-envelope was due.

"My family," he says, "will never forget the ordeal of waiting for the wages I had earned."

Roadmen in the Helmsley district of Yorkshire have to spend 2s. 1½ 'bus fares and travel ten miles before they can reach the nearest bank.

But the North Riding County Council refuses to change its cheque system because "it has prevailed for half a century." That alone is an excellent reason why it should be scrapped!

SOME roadmen, who have been working on a number of different jobs, receive several cheques to make up their total pay.

The councils which employ them seem blind to the fact that the men must pay 2d. on each cheque before they can get their money.

And pennies mean a lot when a wife and family have to be kept on 35s. a week.

A Devonshire labourer has to rely on the little shop where he buys his daily paper to provide him with ready-money in exchange for the county council's cheque.

The newsagent's turnover is so small that the labourer can get his money only by instalments. Naturally, this means that the man has to live on credit, whether he wishes to or not.

In another county the village parson and a local bookmaker are the recognised cheque-changers.

The parson uses the money he gets from the Sunday collections to convert roadmen's cheques into cash, but if there is not enough in the plate payment has to be postponed until the following Sunday!

The "bookie," who is a good sport, will also readily accept the county council's cheques, but his means are limited, too. They depend on the racing calendar and the skill of the punters.

Well, you have seen some of the demoralising effects of the cheque-payment system which is operating widely throughout England and Wales. Scotland also shares in the disgrace.

Surely you can have no doubts that such a system, which turns a man's pay-packet into an instrument of torture, must be ended, and ended at once.

All our county councils must be made to pay their humble workers weekly *and in cash*. It is imperative, if they are not to be exposed to unnecessary hardship and moral perils.

"Write to John Bull" about it

Have a Christmas holiday from tuning!

SAYS CHRISTOPHER STONE

AT even the best of Christmas parties there comes an ebb in the tide of "local talent." Uncle Egbert can produce no more rabbits from his hat. Cousin Chloe has exhausted her repertoire (and audience) of "impersonations of film stars." Even the irrepressible jokemonger is stolidly cracking walnuts instead of chestnuts. What's to do? Why, call on that versatile entertainer 'BUSH-BUTTON' to liven up the party.

It's literally no trouble at all because 'Bush-Button' gives you a holiday even from tuning. You can have dance music, variety, opera or whatever you wish at the press of a button! Change programmes as often as you like. 'Bush-Button' won't complain. In fact it enjoys working "under pressure."

Your local Bush Dealer will be pleased to demonstrate the latest BUSH Models and let you try 'Bush-Button' tuning yourself. I'm sure you'll be intrigued by it.

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FROM 9½ GNS.

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Please send me full details of Bush Models. Also name of nearest Appointed Dealer.

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Address.....

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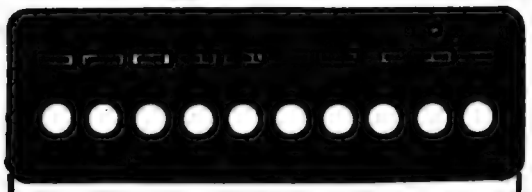

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- Press another button—and there's another station, previous one being automatically cut out.
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- No switch for changing of wave-band; no switch for changing to MANUAL tuning.
- Press-Button stations can, within broad limits, be any of your own choice.

ALL-WAVE MODEL P.B.53. (illustrated). 5-valve (inc. rect.) A.C. Superhet. 10 Press Buttons—7 Long and Medium wave stations and 3 waveband selectors each combining automatic change to manual tuning. Clear, illuminated, station-calibrated dial. 8-watt quality output. 'Teleflic'. 12½ GNS. CASH *or on popular payments.*

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THE GOVERNMENT'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Open Letters

Give Them a Shock!

Rt. Hon. SIR MONTAGUE BARLOW

DEAR SIR MONTAGUE,—I hope you'll give Cabinet Ministers a shock.

They want to do nothing about the gigantic growth of London and the starvation of once-prosperous areas.

They want the Royal Commission, of which you are chairman, to present a milk-and-water report that will excuse their bland inactivity.

You are now preparing that report, and in doing so you have the chance of planning a new Britain.

A Britain where people would not live in the shadow of smoke-belching factories but in sunny and healthy homes.

A land whose industrial wildernesses would be revitalised and the countryside saved from vandalism.

And this is not a matter affecting factory owners alone; it concerns the welfare of millions—and of national safety.

Think of the havoc that might be caused by air raids if we allow most of our industry to be concentrated in London and the Midlands!

Yet the process goes on unchecked, draining South Wales and other populous areas of their life-blood.

I have urged the building of fifty new towns, each with its separate factory section, beautiful housing estates surrounding shopping and entertainment centres, and ample parks.

One expert, supported by eminent men in every profession, wants a hundred such towns. His careful plans envisage houses which, with their fine designs and sunshine roofs, make our present "suburban villas" look like rabbit-hutches.

Every one of these towns would save us from 200 miles of ribbon-development!

The scheme would practically wipe out unemployment and prove an asset far greater than the cost.

Well, here's your opportunity. Speak out against the evil that is producing new slums, impoverishing half the country, causing traffic congestion and incalculable inconvenience, and making southern England a bomber's paradise!—JOHN BULL.

Rt. Hon. Sir SAMUEL HOARE, M.P., *Home Secretary*

DEAR SIR,—I am sick of the supine indifference to the disgraceful exploitation of national safety measures.

We all know the profiteering that flourished during the Crisis. The emergency has passed, but A.R.P. goes on—and so do high profits.

Now the cement trade is in for a good time. Large-scale construction of air raid shelters means a prodigious demand for cement, and groups of financiers are trying to "muscle in" to reap the fat harvest that is expected.

You were caught napping in the Crisis. Are you awake yet?—JOHN BULL.

Viscountess BRIDGEMAN, *Leigh Manor, Shropshire*

DEAR MADAM,—Appealing for a new church school, you mention that teachers in council schools cannot be questioned about their religious beliefs.

Quite. Were it otherwise we should forgo the toleration of which all cool-headed Britons are proud and begin an era of bigotry and persecution.

"At some council schools," you continue, "Communism is practically taught openly."

This is certainly true of some private schools, as I have shown. But I refuse to believe it of State-aided institutions. Produce evidence, please.—JOHN BULL.

The COUNCIL, *Horticultural Trades Association*

GENTLEMEN,—Who are you to dictate what people shall do with their gardens and allotments?

The Nursery Trades Preservation Bill that you are considering would make it an offence, punishable by a £100 fine, for private gardeners to sell unwanted plants or seedlings!

You'd better drop it. You represent not a tenth of the country's nurserymen, and anyhow the public would bitterly oppose such a stupid and petty restriction.—JOHN BULL.

Mr. G. H. HALL, *M.P. for Aberdare*

DEAR MR. HALL,—The plight of hundreds of thousands of our people, the despair of men thrown on the scrap heap in the prime of life, the levelling-out of Britain's undoubted prosperity—this great issue merely bores most of your fellow M.P.s.

So I judge from the fact that, during the debate on the distressed areas, fewer than forty Members attended, and at one time there were only nineteen—fifteen Labour men and four Conservatives.

You spoke up bravely and constructively; but I daresay the thought crossed your mind that the House of Commons resembled a derelict area that night.—JOHN BULL.

Miss BEATRICE BEZZANT, *Domestic Workers' Leader*

DEAR MADAM,—Ulster is trying to attract English servants. Your union might look into conditions there.

Before me lies an advertisement from a Belfast paper. It reads: "Wanted, bright general for godly Ulster household of nine; wages £16; use of harmonium Sabbath afternoons."

No doubt she would also be expected to sing hymns of praise for her 6s. a week.—JOHN BULL.

Rt. Hon. W. S. MORRISON, M.P., *Minister of Agriculture*

DEAR SIR,—Edward Phipps, who has a wife and four children, leaves his one-roomed home in Brighton each morning, makes a 'bus journey, then walks three and a half miles to his work.

For his week's toil on the farm he earns 35s., though he could get 2s. more on the "dole."

There are thousands in his position. But the fact that skilled men would be better off idle brings no shame to your face.

You continue your footling, fiddling, timidly ineffectual experiments, but agriculture must be entirely reformed if men like Phipps are to receive adequate reward and the nation assured of plentiful food.—JOHN BULL.

The MEMBERS, *Public Assistance Committees*

GENTLEMEN,—Your "Christmas spirit" must find expression now.

For you are discussing what extra grants or goods shall be given to persons drawing poor relief.

This time, let there be no accusations against you of keeping alive the spirit of Bumbledom.

Ratepayers will not thank you for showing a vicious and cynical parsimony towards those who cannot obtain work or who are aged and ill. Anticipate your New Year resolutions by sanctioning a Yuletide generosity.—JOHN BULL.

Capt. AUSTIN HUDSON, M.P., *Ministry of Transport*

DEAR SIR,—I marvel that no jeers greeted your admission that in some districts electricity costs 10d. a unit.

For years I have attacked the muddle, waste and inflated charges of electricity supply companies—evils that minimise the miracle of the "Grid."

The McGowan Committee investigated the scandal and demanded action. But the Government of which you are a member is apparently too fearful of vested interests to proceed with the long-promised reorganisation. What a contemptible surrender!—JOHN BULL.

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P424A

GIVE **CAPSTAN** FOR CHRISTMAS!

Anyone who smokes is sure to like Capstan. The following sizes are supplied in these attractive Christmas cartons: Flat 50 box (as shown), at 2/5—Flat 50 tin, at 2/6—Box of 100, at 4/8—Tin of 100, at 4/10—and Box of 25, at 1/3.

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If the catastrophic decline in the birth-rate is not checked, our population will be halved in two generations

A. G. Gardiner Discusses

The More-Babies Problem

NATIONAL defence is not merely a question of the accumulation of guns and bombers, fighting planes and battleships.

These things are only the material of defence. More important in the long run is the efficiency and sufficiency of the people upon whom depends the greatness and stability of a nation.

It is in this respect that we are most vulnerable to-day.

We are faced with a catastrophic decline in the birth-rate which, if it is not checked, will halve our population in the next two generations and reduce us from a world power to the level of a small pastoral and decaying people.

This is not an alarmist speculation. It is the conclusion of every statistician who has studied the problem.

If the present tendencies persist, says Professor Carr Saunders, the Director of the School of Economics, our population will have fallen from 45,000,000 to 32,000,000 in 1976 and to below 20,000,000 by the end of this century.

It is this prospect which seems to me to make the question of family allowances the most urgent feature of national defence.

I AM encouraged to return to it again by the announcement made a few days ago by the managing director of Cadbury Brothers that his firm had decided to inaugurate a scheme of children's allowances.

Briefly, the scheme is that every employee with more than two children will receive a uniform allowance of 5s. a week for every additional child under eighteen who has not yet left school.

This is not the first case of the adoption of so public-spirited a policy by a great industrial organisation.

A similar scheme was initiated last summer by the firm of Tootal Broadhurst at Manchester, and the Pilkington glass firm, St. Helens, have also, I think, put the policy into operation.

The importance of these experiments cannot be measured by their effect upon other employers, valuable as that is.

It is as an inspiration to national action that they are chiefly to be welcomed.

So great and costly a policy cannot be universally achieved by private benevolence.

Not all firms are in a position to adopt it, and even if they were it would not be just that they should be burdened with the cost of what is essentially a matter, not of business advantage, but of national security.

The nation wants more children to be born, and the nation must create the conditions which will encourage them to be born.

We do not calculate the cost when our shores are threatened with invasion, and we must not be cheeseparing when our whole national being is threatened with internal decay.

It is not merely a question of declining population that is at stake. It is a question also of the quality of our life.

IT IS NOT ENOUGH THAT WE SHOULD HAVE MORE CHILDREN BORN. WE WANT THEM BETTER NURTURED, BETTER FED, BETTER CLOTHED, BETTER EDUCATED.

The making of good citizens is not waste like the making of guns and bombers. It is the highest economy, for every A.1 life enriches the State just as every C.3 life is a burden to the State.

The condition of our child life has enormously improved in every respect during the last fifty years.

This is proved by the astonishing decline in child mortality.

But malnutrition is still widespread, and it is notorious that a large part of the nation's bill of £300,000,000 for the treatment of ill-health would be saved if all children were provided with sufficient and proper food in the years which decide whether they shall belong to the A.1 or the C.3 category.

It is true that family allowances will not counteract all the causes of the declining birth-rate.

THAT phenomenon is due to many things—the breakdown of the discipline of religion, the popular use of contraceptives, the distractions of modern life, the competition of the motor-car with the perambulator, the fear of war and so on.

But that family allowances would do much to stop the rot is proved by what has happened elsewhere, notably in Germany.

The slump in the birth-rate is not peculiar to this country. It is an almost universal tendency among the white races.

But nowhere did it assume such a formidable shape as in Germany, when the births fell from 1,800,000 in pre-war years to 971,000.

In two or three years the rate crashed to the 15 per 1,000 mark to which we had fallen by slow degrees over a long term of years.

In 1933 Hitler introduced the marriage loan system by which every girl who held a job was given a dowry of £80 if she married and relinquished her work.

This loan was repayable, but after the birth of the first child it was reduced by a quarter, and with the birth of a fourth child the debt was extinguished altogether.

The result has been that the birth-rate has increased by 24 per cent. and the marriage rate by 27 per cent. The birth-rate now stands at 19½ per 1,000, which means that the population has been stabilised.

Meanwhile our own birth-rate still stands about 15 per 1,000 or some 25 per cent. below replacement.

This seems conclusive evidence that public policy can influence population returns, and there is no reason to suppose that the stimulation which has operated in Germany would not be effective here.

Other methods directed to the same end have been adopted in France, Belgium, New South Wales and Italy, but I am not in a position to say with what result.

There is nothing novel or adventurous, therefore, in the proposal. Indeed, the practice of giving family allowances is familiar in many ways here.

It has long been the custom in the Methodist Church, among the staff of some of the Universities and in regard to the married members of the Services.

AND during the Great War dependents' allowances were based on the same principle.

No one questions to-day the part which national insurance has played in stabilising the industrial world, and there is much to be said for a scheme which would apply the insurance method to the provision of family allowances.

In that case, however, it would be necessary to take care that the employer has no reason to give preference to the unmarried worker in order to avoid his share of the allowance.

Also, I think there is force in Miss Rathbone's plea that the allowance for children be paid direct to the mother.

The case is so urgent and so clear that it should be taken in hand at once.

Men of all Parties are agreed about the necessity of the reform, and with all the experience now available of the methods in operation it should not be impossible for a committee of enquiry to draw up a practicable scheme in a very short time.

MR SEEBOHM ROWNTREE has said that it could be done in three months.

If the Government wants a good cry with which to go to the country it could not do better than make such a measure the high light in its immediate programme.

In the meantime, why should not a start be made, as Lord Samuel has suggested, by bringing the principle of family allowances into all the public services?

The nation needs children. Let the nation make it possible for potential parents to have them in circumstances which will assure the children of a good start in life.

Just a Human Story

One Man's Loss

I HAVE been sacked.

Called into my chief's sanctum the other morning, I was told, as gently and nicely as possible, that there wasn't enough work to justify the continuance of my employment.

Then ——, my friend, was called in to hear the same terrible news.

True, we were both of us only temporary clerks. Dismissal was a shadow that always hung over us. But it made the blow—when it came—no easier to bear.

He hasn't betrayed his feelings to me. For my part, I view the gradual approach of Christmas with a terrible sinking feeling in the pit of my stomach, and I expect he does, too.

There is one crumb of comfort for us both.

When "there is again enough work to justify the renewal of our employment" we will be sent for again.

Yet, somehow, I cannot feel happy about the prospect.

It would be criminal of me to hope to get that job back.

I should be made of very poor material if I regretted in any way the fact that there isn't enough work to justify the continuance of my employment.

* * *

For I worked as a temporary at an employment exchange.

It was because things were looking up, and more men were in jobs, that my friend and I were dismissed.

When there are more pinched and hungry faces in the dole queue, more half-starved women left to fret at home, more children crying for more and unable to get it, I shall be given back my job.

I want it. I want it badly. And yet I don't.—R. N., Notts.

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No previous experience required.

An opportunity occurs for men between the ages of 17½ and 22 to enter as Seamen for Special Service, for 7 years' Service in the Fleet and 5 years in the Reserve, from age of 18 or date of entry if above that age.

Good Food. Good Pay. Good Friends. A chance to see the world.

Ask at the Post Office for a copy of "The Royal Navy as a Career and How to Join It," which gives full particulars and address of nearest Recruiting Office, or write to the Recruiting Staff Officer, R.N. and R.M. (J.), 85, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

There are now many vacancies for men to enlist as

AIRCRAFTHANDS,

with excellent prospects of being selected later for training in a trade such as Flight Mechanic, Wireless Operator, Electrician, etc.

Apply for Free Booklet, "A Life for Men," to any Post Office or R.A.F. Recruiting Depot.

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR BOYS TO LEARN A TRADE FREE OF COST.

The Regular Army requires about 450 boys for training as Blacksmiths, Coppersmiths, Electricians, Fitters and Turners, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, and General Service.

Candidates, who must be between the ages of 14 and 16 years 6 months of age on March 1, 1939, will be required to pass an educational examination to be held on January 3, 1939

Application to sit at the examination must be lodged with an Army Recruiting Officer not later than December 17, 1938.

Further particulars may be had from any Army Recruiting Office or direct from the War Office (A.G.10), London, S.W.1.

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3/- DEPOSIT secures the Art Silk Marocain Gown offered by Ambrose Wilson on page 38.

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Always sniffing . . . can't smell . . can't taste . . can't enjoy anything . . half choked . . can't breathe . .

Is Catarrh spoiling **your** enjoyment of life? Is it ruining **your** looks? Making you heavy eyed and unprepossessing? Is it gradually breaking down **your** health and making you feel miserable, depressed and only "half-alive"? Do you wake in the morning with your nose and throat blocked with mucus?

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You can smash Catarrh in a few days.
You can wake up To-morrow feeling 100% better than to-day!

'Mentholatum' enables you to STOP Catarrh where it starts. Clear your NOSE—and keep it clear—with 'Mentholatum.' This amazing breathable balm—when applied into the nostrils—volatilises instantly. Its super-active antiseptic vapours disperse choking mucus, rid your nose of germs, subdue inflammation, stop infection and open up stuffed breathing passages. 'Mentholatum' Brand Balm stays where it is put and keeps active for hours. There is nothing like it. Stops Head Colds overnight and even Chronic Catarrh yields to it! Of All Chemists at 6d. & 1/3. Get some today.

MENTHOLATUM
BRAND BALM

6D. *tins and* **1/3** *jars all chemists—Stops the Attack or Money Back*

This remedy is now also made in LIQUID form for applying into the nostrils with a dropper. If you prefer this method of using, ask your Chemist for MENTHOLATUM Brand Antiseptic Nasal LIQUID. Sold complete with dropper in ONE SIZE ONLY at 1/3

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YOUR CHRISTMAS LIST.—News from the Christmas Gift front goes to show that watches are more popular than ever this season. After all, a gift that will be treasured for life is worth the giving. The firm of H. Samuel, the famous manufacturing jewellers, have a remarkable range of watches this Christmastide.

There are hundreds of styles, all tested by expert watchmakers and fully guaranteed for accuracy. Prices range from 5/- to £20.

Rings to suit every taste and purse can also be found in abundance at all the H. Samuel's shops, from a neat little signet ring for 7/6 to a £40 diamond ring where stones of exceptional colour and lustre are set in the purest of platinum.

Send for a copy of the free catalogue (mentioning *John Bull*) to H. Samuel, Ltd., Dept. 199, Market Street, Manchester, 1.

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DO YOU KEEP CHICKENS? Here's splendid news for all poultry keepers . . . a unique opportunity not to be missed. To-day the Poultry Keepers' Advisory Bureau and Clinic invites you, whether you keep a few fowls in the backyard or farm on an extensive scale, to participate in a great NEW money-saving plan that will be worth POUNDS. Thousands of men and women interested in keeping poultry are already benefiting by this great idea—make sure you have details immediately by sending a postcard for particulars to:—Poultry Keepers' Advisory Bureau and Clinic, Dept. J.B.7, 68, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

GARDENING.

PORTABLE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION REVOLUTIONISED!! Sheds, Garages, Greenhouses, etc., now available made from genuine Western Red Cedar the everlasting wood which defies rot, will not warp, crack or shrink and has a beautiful appearance. Prices are as low as 37/6 and all models are available on easy terms from 2/- down. FREE DELIVERY ALL SIZES. Send at once for FREE Illustrated Catalogue to: R. H. Hall & Co. (Kent), Ltd., 30, Paddock Wood, Kent.

NEW Flowers that will add colour to your 1939 garden. Get a copy of the December Pocket Size Gardening, edited by Richard Sudell, F.R.H.S., and read about the flowers that are going to be popular next year. Gardening is packed full of practical hints, tips and ideas contributed by experts. Here are a few of the subjects covered in the December number. How to Stake Fruit Trees—New Plants for the Rock Garden—Forcing Shrubs to Flower Early—Modern Michaelmas Daisies—43 Jobs to do in December, etc., etc. 25 Articles and Features—over 80 Photographs, drawings and diagrams—100 pages of valuable gardening lore. Ask for the December Pocket Size Gardening, on sale everywhere, price sixpence.

MEDICAL, CURATIVE.

HOW TO STOP SMOKING.—Genuine remedy, proved by Testimonials.—Write, The Stanley Institute, Ltd. (J.B.), 21, Warwick Lane, E.C.4.

DON'T WEAR A TRUSS! Use Brooks Rupture Appliance. New discovery. Wonderful! No lumpy pads, no springs, durable, cheap. Binds and draws parts together quickly. Sent on trial. Catalogue free.—Address, Brooks Appliance Co., Ltd. (B30 W.), 80, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.

FREE Sample of Cephos will quickly convince you of effectiveness of this Harley Street Physician's Remedy for Colds and Influenza. Does not affect the heart. Safe and certain. Send p.c.—CEPHOS, Ltd., (Dept. 29), BLACKBURN.

WORMS CURED. — Artico Brand Worm Tablets are a Specialist's positive cure for removing the cause. No fasting, dieting, or interference with daily habits. Send 1/6 for Generous Supply, or 1½d. stamp for details.—Ridyard Tablet Co., 34-36, Codnor, Derby.

A FREE Sample of URACE brand tablets for rheumatism sufferers is offered in ad. on p. 39.

FREE.—A sample of Bole's Gin Pills for Kidney Trouble, Backache, etc. See p. 39.

HEALTHY legs for all! Don't let leg troubles cripple you. Send for free sample and booklet. See Back Cover.

A FREE Offer! — to all who are run down. A Generous sample of Angier's Emulsion. Fill in the coupon on page 31. Attach 4d. stamp.

SUFFERERS from Constipation. Get a free sample of Epsotabs, the new pleasant way of taking salts. Simply write to Epsotabs, Ltd. (J.B.9), 59, Chancery Lane, W.C.2. See page 29.

FREE.—Send a p.c. for a liberal free trial bottle of D.D.D. Brand Lotion.—Write, mentioning *John Bull*, to D.D.D. Laboratories (Dept. M.N.10), Fleet Lane, London, E.C.4. See p. 37.

ALL foot deformities can be scientifically and permanently corrected with the Incelcas improved foot elevator. Further particulars and advice on application to the Incelcas Surgical Co., whose address, etc., is given on page 38.

FREE.—If you are run-down, lack energy, have a poor appetite, regain new vigour by sending for a free booklet entitled "Iron Starvation, the Thief of Health and Strength." Write at once to the Iron Jelloid Co., Ltd. (Dept. J.64), Watford, Herts, or fill in the coupon on page 39.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PEARL ENDOWMENT POLICIES PURCHASED OUTRIGHT. PIONEER SALES, WINCHESTER.

BEAUTIFUL GIFTS FREE. See advert. on p. 3 and send a postcard for full details of a great Free Gift offer to Sealon Tea Co., Mitcham, Surrey.

FREE Yeast supplied with each tin of Vigrormalt, with which you can make home beer. Further particulars appear on page 30.

FREE Cash Prizes. £35 in prizes are offered by the proprietors of Diploma Cheese for the best last line to the Limerick on page 27.

ACCEPT this free double offer. Trial bottle of Vaseline Hair Tonic and also a Vaseline Soapless Shampoo. Simply enclose 2d. stamp to Dept. J.B.20, Chesebrough Mfg. Co., Consd., Victoria Road, London, N.W.10. See page 26.

DON'T overlook the announcement on the Front Cover. A free booklet, "Music Everybody Loves," giving details of specially boxed record selections, is yours for the asking. Particulars will also be sent of the amazing H.M.V. all-electric Record Player, which converts your wireless set into a Radiogram. Fill in coupon.

ABSOLUTELY Free! A full-size Criterion Junior Cigar, retailing at 3d. Take advantage of this unique offer to test free and without obligation a most satisfying smoke—a real cigar, beautifully made, filled with real Havana tobacco. All you have to do is to fill in your name and address on page 33.

FREE.—Particulars of the leading British Fretwork Outfits are contained in a descriptive leaflet published by HOBBIES. Write to Hobbies, Ltd. (Dept. 45), Dereham, Norfolk, for free copy. Boys will appreciate Hobbies British Fretwork Outfits—a complete set of tools to keep them happy making practical things in wood. See page 28.

FREE.—Get your boy to write for the wonderful new MECCANO catalogue, profusely illustrated and describing how bridges, towers, cranes, aeroplanes, ships can all be made with MECCANO parts. A copy of this 72-page catalogue can be obtained post free in return for the names and addresses of three of his chums.—Address, Meccano, Ltd. (Dept. 37), Binns Road, Liverpool, 13. See page 25.

NAIL BITING.—Free booklet sent privately for 1½d. stamp explains how you can free yourself (or child) of this objectionable, health-endangering habit.—Pilpax, Ltd. (Dept. J.B.1), 81, Broadway, Crouch End, London, N.8

Sir Wyndham Childs' Special Dossier

The Great Guide Book Snare

THE National Sixty Pension League, of Leeds Road, Bradford, is sending out circulars inviting subscriptions of 1s. a year.

Its object is to secure a revision of old age pensions, and demand payment of £1 a week at sixty years of age, with double the amount for married couples.

Honorary organising secretary is Mr. Harold Duce.

About twelve months ago, from another address in Bradford, he was inviting support for the National Opinion League to urge public welfare reforms.

Mr. Duce may be very anxious to do all these things, but I cannot see he is likely to achieve much with the kind of organisation he seems intent on running from private addresses.

I can suggest many more useful ways in which you could spend 1s.

You Have Been Warned

A FAMILIAR football pools tipping circular is now going out under the name of John Pleydell, of Balham Hill, London, S.W.

It is the one with that preposterous "Sure Win Guarantee," made originally by our old friend G. R. Pardoe.

Just throw it away.

* * *

BOBBING up again, too, is another old friend I have not heard of for about eight years.

He is F. Iles, of Maypole Avenue, Bristol, and he is advertising for "a few persons to win football pools with his forecasts."

Last time I warned readers about him he was running a home-work racket under the name of the Traders' Institute, also at Bristol.

* * *

THE National Information Bureau, which has recently moved to Reeves Avenue, Church Lane, London, N.W., is most anxious to find jobs for people—IF they pay a fee in advance.

It is only 1s., they stress, but in brackets are the words "1s. for each enquiry."

For a separate fee they also offer to advise parents on the right jobs for boys or girls.

I have always disapproved of any proposition which asks for fees in advance.

* * *

PROFESSOR KASTRAKA, writing from an address in Paris, is showering leaflets over here in his anxiety to send a horoscope reading to anyone who will forward 3d. in postage stamps.

It's not much, but it's a waste of money, and some readers do not seem to have heard anything more after sending their 3d.

* * *

WRETCHED little cheats are increasing.

There's the man, recently in Cornwall, who poses as the representative of a well-known firm of sewing machine makers.

He collects a deposit of 4s. and is never heard of again.

In Leicester, men have been going from door to door selling packets of needles "in aid of ex-Servicemen."

They are found to be eyeless and made of cheap metal which bends.

I ISSUE a special warning this week about guide-book advertisements.

This service, which can be so useful to tourists, hotel and boarding-house keepers alike, is impeded by unscrupulous boosting and bluffing.

Usually, it is the men sent out to canvass the advertisements who are responsible for what I consider to be wicked misrepresentation.

People are induced to sign forms which commit them to pay for their hotels or boarding-houses to be listed in some guide-book or other.

Often, as complaints before me show, they do not realise that any charge is to be made, or imagine they will have to pay only if visitors are sent to them.

In a number of cases recently County Court judges, realising the ramp, have dismissed claims made against people who have been deluded in this way.

The experience of Mrs. M. A. Small, a widow, who has a small business in the Lincolnshire village of Alford, is typical.

A representative of the Era Publishing Company, Wembley, persuaded her to sign an advertisement order by telling her that the guide-book was approved by the local council.

He also said he had been sent by a man who usually advised her on business matters.

When she was sued at Skegness County Court she said she had just been worried into signing, and did not realise what she was doing.

His Honour, Judge T. W. Langman, found that false representation had been made, and the company's claim was disallowed.

It may seem absurd that people like Mrs. Small should say they did not know what they are signing, but that is exactly what is happening.

"You put your name there—it's only a formality," is in effect what many of these canvassers say, and they do so much talking that the people they approach are often genuinely confused.

Many of those who were induced to advertise in "Holiday Travel by Coach" are pleading that they were misled.

This handbook was published by a firm named King and Wolton, Ltd., now in liquidation.

Agents, calling on hotel and boarding-house keepers, stated that tours were being organised during the summer season.

They were anxious to find a limited number of places in various seaside towns where the tourists could stay.

Canvassing extended throughout the country, from Devon to Cumberland.

The general impression seems to have been given that those whose houses were listed would receive visitors.

In a West Coast resort advertisements were taken from many houses, although the agents stated that only eight places were being specially selected.

One of the landladies states that she booked her announcement on the understanding that if no guests were sent to her there would be nothing to pay. Otherwise the charge would be £3 3s.

None of them, I am told, received any tourists, but all are now being asked to pay by the Receiver who is clearing up the affairs of King and Wolton, Ltd.

Of course, he knows nothing about the inducements blandished by the firm's representatives.

When they are brought to his notice he can state only that, as he holds the signed orders for the advertisements, he must enforce payment.

Sir Wyndham Child says:—

"I implore all who are approached by guide-book canvassers not to sign any documents until they make sure they are dealing with reputable people"

To many of the people concerned £3 3s. means a great deal, and letters I have from some of them indicate their distress.

Then there is the out-and-out crook who is beginning to see big possibilities in the guide-book as a racket.

Naturally, there are a number of guide-books which are perfectly genuine and whose representatives deal quite honourably with those from whom they seek advertisements.

Anyone in any doubt can apply to the publicity officer, now employed by most local authorities.

Should there be any difficulty, write to me.

New A.R.P. Bluffer

MOST impudent of all A.R.P. bluffs is that which is now being directed from a one-room office at Redhill, Surrey.

Householders in various places outside a twenty-five miles radius of London are receiving an official-looking letter headed: "Crisis Evacuation Offices (Reservations), 10a, Station Road, Redhill, Surrey."

It reads: "In the event of any future crisis or emergency demanding the evacuation of city populations, it is necessary to register all accommodation available in safety zones twenty-five miles distant from important cities.

"It will be appreciated if you will complete and return the enclosed questionnaire in the envelope provided.—Yours faithfully, A. B. Griffiths, Area Controller of Reservations."

The questionnaire seeks details of accommodation, and then asks if the householder would prefer to billet children and adults, whose evacuation is arranged by the Government or City Councils on fixed terms, or take in "gentlefolk as temporary paying guests."

Last query is: "How many paying guests could you accommodate at two guineas weekly?"

* * *

The department at the Home Office dealing with evacuation knows nothing about A. B. Griffiths or his scheme, nor does the A.R.P. Officer at Reigate, who controls the Redhill area.

I advise anyone who receives the letter to throw it in the waste-paper basket.

Meanwhile, I suggest that the A.R.P. authorities should make enquiries at 10a, Station Road, Redhill.

Beware this Trap

EVERY day young people are being tricked into paying for the training which is supposed to fit them for a particular job.

Complaints are reaching the police all over the country.

One of the most active of the racketeers is Ernest Leatham, who poses as an "ace" motorist.

Not only does he fleece his pupils, but Leatham also dupes men who part with money as security for jobs he has promised them.

Driving schools which he starts remain open just long enough for him to take all the money he can. Then he disappears.

He made a big haul at Coventry, and since then has been in Birmingham, Preston, Nuneaton and Leicester.

He is so daring that he rarely changes his name.

When last heard of he was in Rochdale, and the police are now on his track.

Most of this duping starts with skilful advertising in small local newspapers.

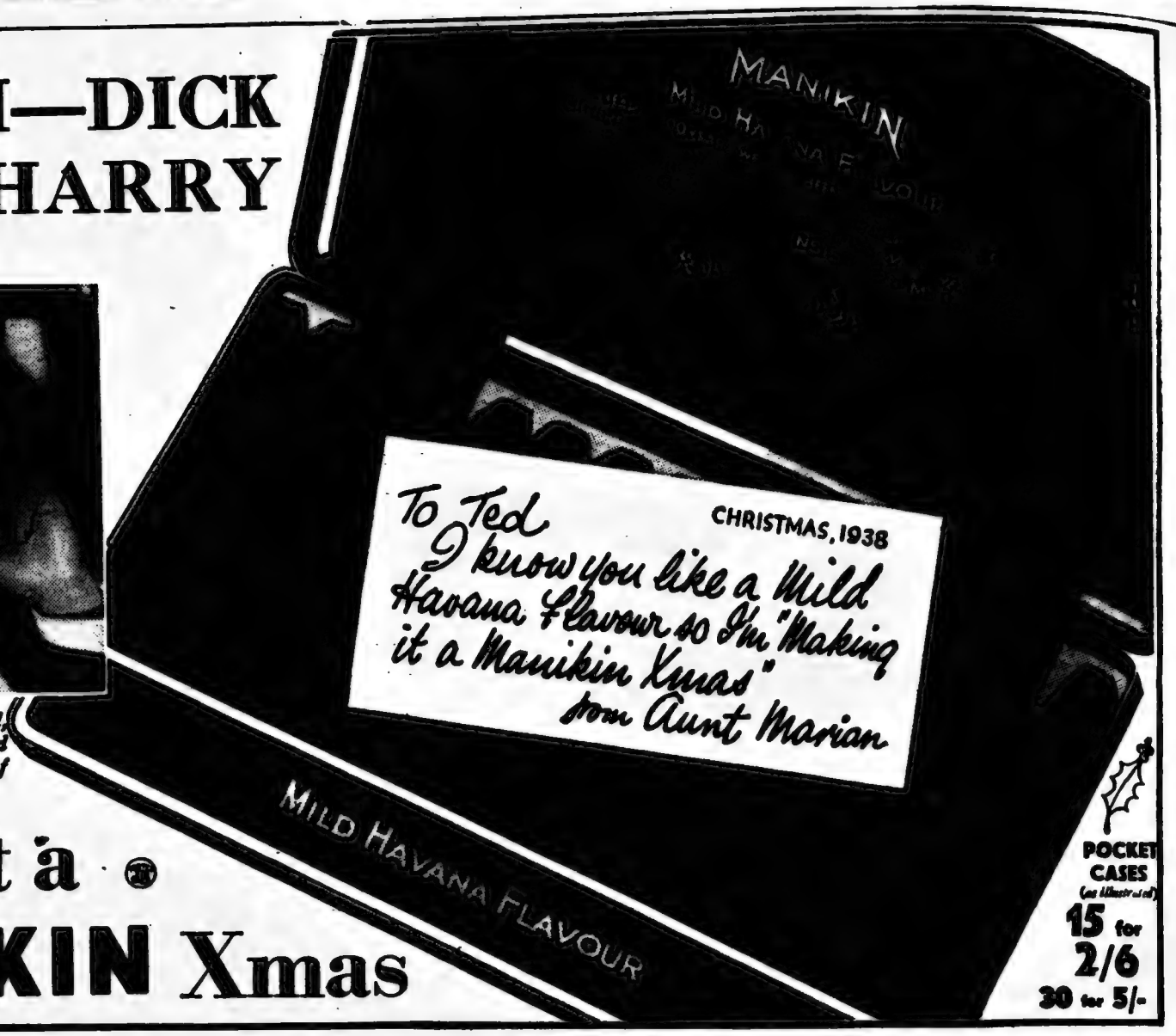
Young men seeking desperately for some opening are inevitably attracted.

To one of these advertisers no fewer than nineteen men paid £10 each for jobs that never materialised.

If credentials were always requested and taken up, the operations of these rogues would soon be defeated.

For TOM—DICK and Sir HARRY

In pocket cases as illustrated, also in cartons 5 for 10d. and 10 for 1/8 and in cedar boxes of 25, 50 & 100.


MANIKIN
To Ted
CHRISTMAS, 1938
I know you like a Mild Havana Flavour so I'm "Making it a Manikin Xmas"
from Aunt Marian
MILD HAVANA FLAVOUR
POCKET CASES (as illustrated)
15 for 2/6
30 for 5/-

Make it a MANIKIN Xmas

royds

Use The Power Of *Phensic*

TO END YOUR

PAIN

—Rheumatism
—Headaches
—Neuralgia
—Neuritis

Four active ingredients are combined for extra-rapid Pain-Relief and Tonic-Effect, without the least risk even to weak hearts. When you are overcome with fatigue, lassitude, worry or nerves, or when suffering from Headache, Neuralgia, Nerve Pains, Backache or Rheumatism, 2 Tablets of Phensic is what you need.

Formula and full description of Phensic's POWERFUL yet SAFE action enclosed with every supply. Get Phensic now: 3d, 6d, 1/3, 3/-, and 5/-

Phensic

Pronounced 'FEN-ZIK' *Brand*

The Wonderful Tablets that Drive out PAIN

CHERRY BLOSSOM BOOT POLISH

It's the DAILY POLISH that keeps shoes so much *smarter*

In Black, White, Brown, Tonette, and Dark Tan Stain.
Tins 2½d., 4½d. and 6d.

Chiswick Products Ltd., London, W.4.

CB/LU/3

THE GIFT THAT NEVER FAILS—

MODEL No. 7 — 39/6
Electric Alarm with Automatically controlled floodlit dial

A Ferranti Electric Clock never fails to please and never fails to keep accurate time. Fool-proof, needing no winding or regulating, each model is a handsome masterpiece. Absolutely dependable.

A beautiful gift, easily installed and costing only a few pence a year on current. Obtainable from all high-class Jewellers, Radio and Electrical dealers.

For A.C. Mains 200/250 volts, 50 cycles.

FERRANTI CLOCKS

Send for our Catalogue C.J./13 from:
FERRANTI LTD., HOLLINWOOD, LANCS.
London: Bush House, Aldwych, W.C.2.

Sir Wyndham Childs' Special Dossier (contd.)

I Can Tell Them!

MY war on Automatic Salesmen, Ltd., has had an echo in Parliament.

The Home Secretary said that though the police had received numerous complaints about misrepresentations made by this firm's travelling salesmen, evidence on which criminal proceedings could be based had not been forthcoming.

He also explained that the company had ceased to hire cabinets to shopkeepers, and its activities were now confined to recovering sums alleged to be due from defaulting clients.

I can assure the Home Secretary that its activities are by no means confined to recovering debts.

Automatic Salesmen, Ltd., are also Rentit, Ltd., with H. J. Herbert and E. H. Cole as directors of both, and Cole recently figured in a case at Chippenham County Court before His Honour G. K. Jenkins, K.C.

* * *

Herbert and Cole hire out pin-tables, and Cole admitted at the County Court that they had some 2,500 to 2,700 pin-tables up and down the country.

James Moore, the jailbird traveller of Messrs. Automatic Salesmen, Ltd., and Rentit, Ltd., secured a contract for a pin-table. The judge asked why the hirer was required to sign a form to the effect that he had read and understood the agreement, and he was informed it had "always been the rule of the firm."

Judge Jenkins remarked that he could not understand why it was necessary if the agreement was above suspicion!

Why was it necessary to make assurance doubly sure by having this form?

He should have thought that its existence indicated fairly clearly that plaintiffs were *anticipating* some sort of dispute with regard to the nature of the agreement, and were providing an answer *in advance* in the event of a dispute.

* * *

I can tell His Honour that he was absolutely right, and that thousands of unfortunate people have been the victims of this system.

Had he been aware of the criminal record of James Moore—who was bound over at Wimbledon in 1927 for stealing, and in 1932 sentenced at West London to concurrent terms of six months on four charges of fraud—he might have expressed himself even more strongly.

I wish, too, he had been aware of the opinion of Lord Justice McKinnon of H. J. Herbert and E. H. Cole in their capacity of Rentit, Ltd. He described them as not having the most elementary sense of honesty or decency.

I should very much like to see a question put to the Home Secretary about the total number of summonses applied for by Automatic Salesmen, Ltd., since they have been in business. The answer would astound him!

Public Benefactor

Mr. R. T. Hitching, of 24, St. Mary Street, Winchester, secures this week's £1 1s. for furnishing information which enables me to issue a general warning.

Dr. A. D. Merriman

End All This Ugly Gossip!

PEOPLE in Wallsend-on-Tyne are demanding that secrecy about the resignation of a local schoolmaster should be ended.

As nearly always happens in cases like this, the mystery has caused rumours, which are unfair to the headmaster.

Dr. A. D. Merriman has been head of the Secondary School and Principal of the Technical Institute in Wallsend for more than twelve years.

Naturally, there was great surprise when it was announced that the Northumberland Education Committee had accepted his resignation, following allegations concerning the management of the school and the institute.

Councillor W. Marshbank, chairman of the Higher Education Sub-Committee, in recommending the adoption of this decision at a full meeting of the Education Committee, said he thought the report "spoke for itself."

That is exactly what it does not do.

Not a hint was given publicly of what the allegations were.

★

This vague announcement simply rekindled all the rumours which sprang up when it was first learned that an enquiry was being held.

Stubborn secrecy after subsequent meetings of the Education Sub-Committee made the position worse.

Then it was stated that Dr. Merriman had been given leave of absence, and when later his resignation was accepted, it was indicated that his salary of £20 a week would be paid until the end of April.

Now Tyneside is speculating as to what is behind it all.

Members of the Northumberland County Council are being urged to sweep the mystery away and make a clear statement of the facts.

But the next meeting of the Council will not be held until February.

It would be much more sensible if the Education Committee made a statement without any further delay.

From enquiries I have made there seems to be no reason why they should not do so.

★

A frank disclosure of the allegations against Dr. Merriman, regrettable though they may be, would dispose of the ugly gossip which is growing more virulent every day, and which does the headmaster a grave injustice.

Meet Mr. Martin, the Magnate

ANYTHING from a pin to a circus would interest John James Martin if he could turn it into money.

From his office at 22, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.2, he likes to picture himself as the man behind big deals in all kinds of commodities.

The companies with which he has surrounded himself certainly give the impression of great activity. They profess to trade in trucks, chemicals, furs, rubber, foodstuffs, and gold shares.

An imposing array, until you look beneath the surface—as the police have had to do quite frequently.

Many people who have been induced to invest money in one or other of the concerns have become increasingly worried.

* * *

There are about ten companies in Martin's warren, and, though his name does not appear in the registered records of all of them, he is the man behind them.

One of the companies, Gold Reefs of West Africa, Ltd., figured in the trial of Stanley Groves Spiro, the spectacular share swindler who was recently convicted at the Old Bailey.

Quantities of these well-nigh worthless shares were foisted on the public by Spiro and his agents.

Another equally dubious company is British Rubber Investment Trust, Ltd.

Martin is its secretary, and a few weeks ago he was fined £75 for not filing necessary details at Somerset House.

Two other men, formerly directors, Charles Engel, of Mortimer Road, Hackney, and Gerald Reynall, of Queen's Gate Terrace, London, S.W., were each fined £100.

Registration and promotion of this Trust was carried out by a firm named Audley Chester and Brown, Ltd., whose address is also 22, Basinghall Street.

The directors are of Spanish and Belgian nationality, and, when formed, the firm was described as "bankers and financiers."

* * *

Its advertisements have been appearing in foreign newspapers, and state that a British group is interested in acquiring mineral rights and also ask for "correspondents for financial transactions."

In Portugal, one of the countries where these announcements have been made, all such advertisements are now regarded with great caution.

Similar deals of this kind negotiated from London have proved to be bogus.

Glowing promises of wonderful profits were held out in one of the earliest ventures with which Martin was closely associated.

* * *

Called Consolidated Fur Farms, Ltd., it claimed that an agreement with the Bolivian Government provided extensive concessions in chinchilla fur farms for twenty-five years.

That was in 1926, and the people who parted with money are still waiting for profits!

Meanwhile, the man handling the strings of these various concerns lives in luxury.

Though for about nine years he has always called himself Martin, he was originally known as John James Graham Ballin.

Gerald Reynall, one of his chief associates, has twice been convicted, once for obtaining money by false pretences.

The other man, Charles Engel, who has been frequently in the Basinghall Street office, is known by the police to have been connected with share-pushing ventures for a long time.

Poses as a Duke's Son

MASQUERADING in turn as the son of a Duke and the nephew of a well-known titled man, "Philip Yorke" is "borrowing" money from various people.

He always has a plausible story about a legacy, or some theatrical production which he is planning.

It is amazing how many believe him and swallow his promises of parts in his mythical show.

One woman living in the West End of London recently parted with £30.

She has been sensible enough to go to the police and now there is a warrant for Yorke's arrest.

* * *

He has been on the stage in chorus work, but most of the time he lives by his wits.

Effeminate looking, he is twenty-nine years of age, and always manages to dress well.

He has been to jail once for fraud.

British Motor Cycle Association

OUR attention has been called to the reference to the British Motor Cycle Association in the article "Sir Wyndham Childs Warns All Cyclists and Motorists," in the issue of JOHN BULL of November 26, in which we omitted to make it clear that our criticism was not directed in any way to the existing Association.

Since 1934 it has rendered great service to the motor cycling community, and since June, 1935, the Advisory Committee of the Association has consisted of Lord Sandhurst, Captain W. F. Strickland, M.P., Mr. Graham Walker, Mr. V. Morley Lawson and Captain S. A. Davis, D.S.O., O.B.E.

We publish willingly this statement to remove any misapprehension which may have been caused by reason of the article in question, and we desire to express our regret to the above members of the Advisory Committee and to the Association for any reflection which may be thought to have referred to them.

DON'T BE TOO LATE

JOHN BULL'S GREAT XMAS GIFT TO YOU

Cash your Gift Vouchers Now!

YOU must act quickly if you wish to receive "John Bull's" great Xmas Gift in good time for Christmas. A greatly increased staff is dispatching these Gift Sets as quickly as possible; but to avoid any delay, readers who have not already done so are urged to send in their Gift Vouchers at once.

You will find them here—one worth 2/9—the other worth 7/6—one or both, take your choice. Supplies are limited—HURRY!

John Bull Xmas Gift Voucher — 2/9

This Gift Voucher will be accepted as 2/9 in part payment of the "John Bull" 5/6 Writing Set. Only one Voucher will be accepted in part payment of each Set. Valid until 31st December, 1938.

No. A 51914

ONE or BOTH -take your choice

A FREE 2/9 GIFT VOUCHER

The Gift Voucher above will be accepted as 2/9 cash in part payment of "John Bull's" 5/6 Writing Set. The raven-black Pen, handsomely chased, with its graceful streamline effect, delights the eye. It has the latest lever self-filling device. The 14-carat solid gold nib is tipped with iridium. The "Ever-pointed" Pencil, fitted with a propel-repel-expel movement, matches the Pen, and is complete with "Safety" pocket-clip and extra leads. The Presentation Case gives the finishing touch.

John Bull Xmas Gift Voucher — 7/6

This Gift Voucher will be accepted as 7/6 in part payment of the "John Bull" 12/6 Writing Set De Luxe. Only one Voucher will be accepted in part payment of each Set. Valid until 31st December, 1938.

No. B 51914

A FREE 7/6 GIFT VOUCHER

The Gift Voucher above will be accepted as 7/6 cash in part payment of "John Bull's" 12/6 Writing Set De Luxe. The Pen has three inlaid bands of 18-carat ROLLED GOLD; a large nib of 14-carat SOLID GOLD with a tip of costly iridium; the latest lever self-filling device and a "Safety" pocket-clip. The "Ever-pointed" Pencil has two inlaid bands of 18-carat ROLLED GOLD, foolproof propel-repel-expel movement, "Safety" pocket-clip, eraser and extra leads. The Pen and Pencil are exquisitely chased. The Presentation Case is beautifully coloured with a Pearl and Butterfly effect.

ALL BRITISH MADE!

"John Bull's" Christmas Gift Coupon

To "John Bull" Pen Dept., 134-135, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

(1) I enclose Gift Voucher value 2/9, which please accept in part payment of the "John Bull" 5/6 Writing Set. I enclose P.O. for 2/9 plus 6d. for postage and insurance, making 3/- in all.

(2) I enclose Gift Voucher value 7/6, which please accept in part payment of the "John Bull" 12/6 Writing Set DE LUXE. I enclose P.O. for 5/- plus 1/- for postage and insurance, making 6/6 in all.

(1) Fine. Medium. Broad. Oblique. — Cross out grades of nib NOT required. — (2) Fine. Medium. Broad. Oblique.

If you desire BOTH SETS send the two Vouchers and a Postal Order for 8/- only.

NAME.....

FULL POSTAL ADDRESS.....

.....

.....

Write clearly in Block Letters.

J.B., 10/12/38.

Cross Cheque or Postal Order /& Co./ and make payable to "John Bull."

DE RESZKE MINORS are low in price because they are slightly smaller than standard size. For all that, they last the full ten minutes—and are made from exactly the same tobacco, and with exactly the same care, as more expensive cigarettes.

In boxes **15** for **6D** 30 for 1/-

In tins 30 for 1/- 60 for 2/-

PLAIN • CORK OR RED-TIPPED

De Reszke MINORS

J. Millhoff & Co. Ltd., No. 1 Piccadilly, W.1. Issued by Godfrey Phillips Ltd.

Mother Machree's Chief Minstrel

All is forgiven and forgotten now, and when he retires we shall remember only his golden voice and personal charm

HANNEN SWAFFER'S WHO'S WHO

This week . . . . . Count John McCormack

AS I stood talking to Harry Lauder at Buckingham Palace garden party, a handsome, dignified man gave me a bowing nod.

"Who's that?" said Lauder.

I had to think, and then said, "Why, it's McCormack"—Count McCormack now.

Then I remembered how, during the war, Lauder and McCormack, both singing in the States, took violent sides, in opposition.

"Is he allowed here?" Lauder asked me.

Yes, all was obviously forgotten and forgiven. Well, why shouldn't everybody forgive?

It was over twenty years ago—on January 12, 1917—that "John McCormack, the Irish tenor," to quote the record, "visited the United States District Court in Philadelphia and renounced his allegiance to King George and declared his intention of becoming a citizen of the United States."

A glance at the declaration disclosed these official facts:

John McCormack, vocalist, born in Athlone, Ireland, June 14, 1884; aged thirty-two years; residence, Ritz-Carlton Hotel; arrived in this country at the Port of New York; April 23, 1904; height 5 ft. 10 in.; weight, 220 lb.; complexion, dark.

Then great trouble started. McCormack had become American, not in the ordinary quiet way of business, but as a protest. He, like many thousands of Irishmen living in the United States during the Great War, took an anti-British view.

So it was that when, after two years of "Peace," John was brought back to London by Lionel Powell, there was a row which stopped his appearance at Queen's Hall.

English people did not mind his becoming an American, but, they asked, if he were so anti-British, why should he want it both ways?

So the *Freeman's Journal* stated that McCormack was returning to America, as he was "the victim of organised conspiracy."

"I was compelled to cancel half my concerts in Australia," he said. "When I arrived in England I saw I would meet a similar reception from the Jingoes there, so I likewise abandoned my London concert."

Two years later, Lionel Powell came to me and said, "Can I risk McCormack at Queen's Hall now?"

"All that trouble is now forgotten," I told him. "The Great War has been over six years. London and McCormack can't continue it for ever."

JOHN, in spite of mysterious threats of a boycott, sang at Queen's Hall. Hundreds were turned away—and there was a tremendous scene.

"It was magnificent, wonderful!" he said at the end. "I am very much touched."

The trouble had died out. We English have short memories.

Now, mind you, if I were an Irishman, I might have done what McCormack did. We should always remember that there is an Irish point of view.

Besides, England was not so kind to McCormack in his struggling days.

When, with a sweet, if thin, tenor voice, John came to London in 1905, brought to Sir Louis Sterling by a gramophone record dealer in Dublin, John made records for £1 a time—all they were then worth.

The Sterling Company, as it was called then, swamped Ireland with the records.

WELL, the voice that was soon to be known as "the greatest of all Irish tenors" wasn't thought much of here. George Edwardes offered it a job in the Gaiety chorus, "just to please a friend."

It was refused the part of Dr. Primrose, in "The Vicar of Wakefield," because of its Irish accent. McCormack, given a free seat for the show, could scarcely afford to pay for his programme.

Frank Mullings, you know, was offered a job in the chorus. Tom Burke was offered a job in the chorus. That's what we think of voices—until we are told how good they are. We don't heard the voice, but the big drum.

For months, McCormack got no more than £10 for a concert, and then only occasionally. At the Queen's, in Leicester Square, he was paid £1 and his dinner.

Then, when he was twenty-three, came his great luck. Because Covent Garden, with a season of Caruso and all the stars, had lost a great deal of money, they decided, in 1907, to try a cheap lot—Tetrazzini, who had sung all over the world almost unrecognised, and for very small fees; and McCormack, whose voice she liked, but who was unknown.

Tetrazzini, in a night, made her fame. John, one of the worst actors I've ever seen in grand opera—yes, he was quite as bad as Caruso!—sang very charmingly, and came in on the wave of her success.

Still, even in 1908, the highest fee John ever got was £20, and that was in Dublin.

Disheartened, he emigrated with his family to America that year, and Caruso, who was on the same ship, handed him—his big heart as generous as always—all the publicity when the reporters went on board.

Now, on the other side of the Atlantic, of course, John had the great advantage of the vast Irish-American population—sentimental, full of emotion, wildly enthusiastic over their own kind—and soon he got into the Big Money.

Besides, he was, of course, a Roman Catholic—and his own Church made much of him.

Well, surrounded by all the Irish-Americanism, he made what some call his great political mistake, but which others insist was his political honesty. Anyway, its repercussions lasted for years.

John is now an Irish citizen. He went "home"—as few Irishmen do, in spite of their sentimental tears over a country they have left—rented a castle from Lord Drogheda, hung it with pictures which he collected, and became so respected and loved that he was actually talked of, recently, as Governor-General—yes, and even as President!

Although, mind you, I do not exult, as many do, in all this "Mother Machree" business—even John's own mother was sick of it years ago, he says—John does it splendidly. He has "a way with him."

HE has great natural charm, and is, in his private life, a model husband and father, and still a broth of a bhoy! He is rich, a Count of the Holy Roman Empire, but he has never lost his head.

His own personal record is as clear as the one you hear upon the gramophone.

We love the Irish in England, in spite of what they think in County Cork. We always did, even when they quarrelled with us. In fact, we always insist it was their row, not ours.

Besides, John has no delusions about himself.

"No, I am not a second Caruso," he says. "Don't kid yourself. There never will be another. There was only one Caruso."

John now says he is retiring. He has sung his farewell to London. At the end of this year he will, he declares, have sung his farewell to the world—"except perhaps for charity."

I KNOW those farewells. They usually go on for longer than the encores.

Anyway, in his retirement, whenever it comes, John will always enjoy, I know, a great measure of that abundant popularity which his voice has won him among one of the greatest publics any singer ever knew.

He talks of an Empire scheme—finding British musicians of all sorts and, with his agent as a partner, giving them a chance.

"What about Jack Doyle?" someone asked John, cynically, when he spoke of this.

Well, if it happens, a complete somersault will have taken place in twenty years—John McCormack, the anti-Britisher, will have become one of our boosters.

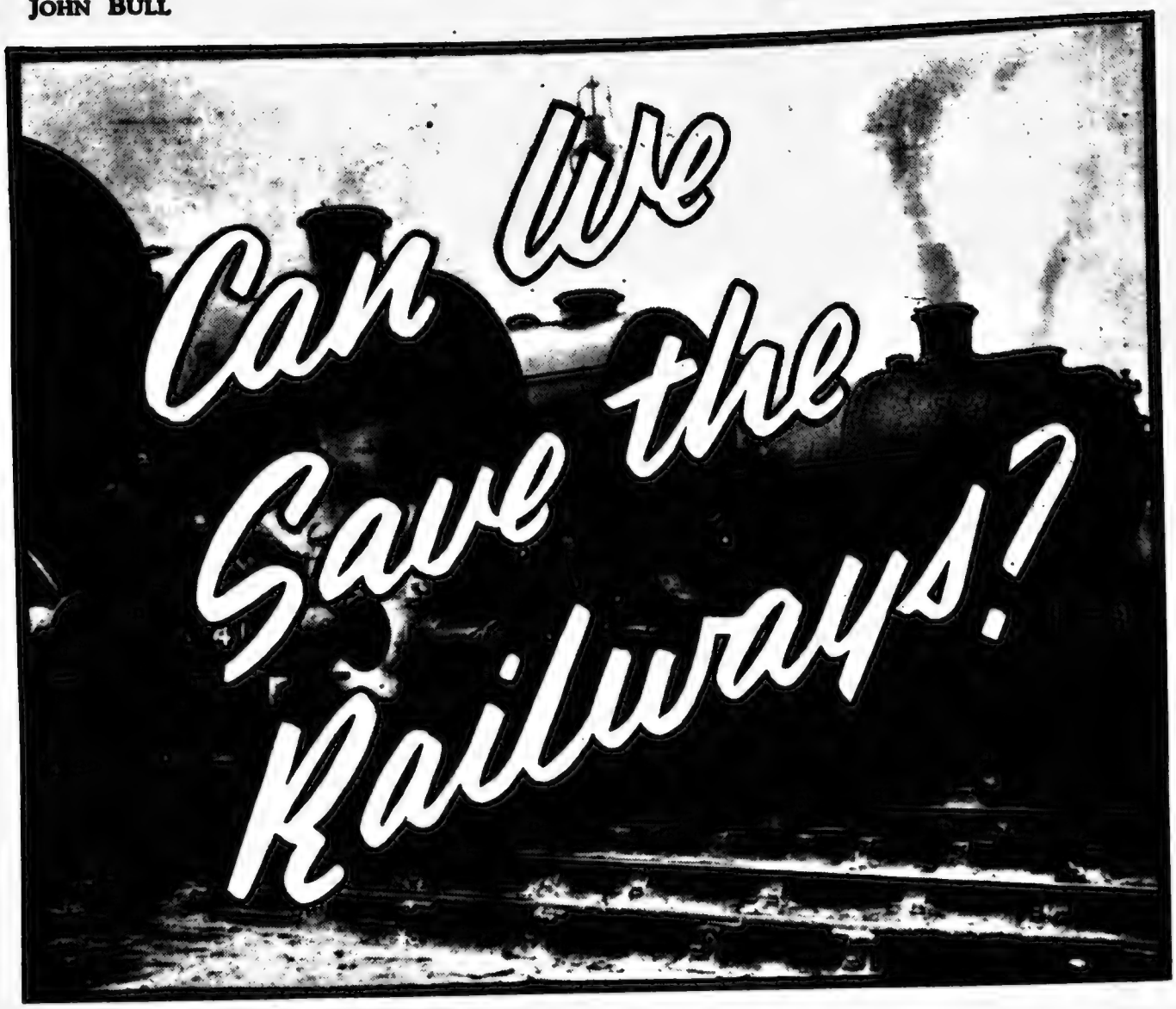
I do not say this cynically, for it would mean not only that we have forgiven John, but that John has forgiven us.

BE QUICK!

TO be sure of receiving JOHN BULL'S great Christmas Gift for yourself or a friend you must act at once. Turn to page 29 now.

There you will find two FREE Gift Vouchers. One will be accepted as 2s. 9d. cash in part payment of JOHN BULL'S superb 5s. 6d. Writing Set—the other will be accepted as 7s. 6d. cash in part payment of JOHN BULL'S 12s. 6d. Writing Set de Luxe.

You may have one or both, but owing to the great demand and the short time remaining readers are urged to cash their Vouchers without delay.



The prosperity of a nati transport. It is therefo concern that, as we know great British industries, th building, are facing disas saved, if we ac

HE harped about it for months, that little grocer in Hampshire who had been forced to wait two weeks for four cases of cocoa to come by rail from Yorkshire.

People who had wanted cocoa had gone elsewhere, and many had given up dealing with him.

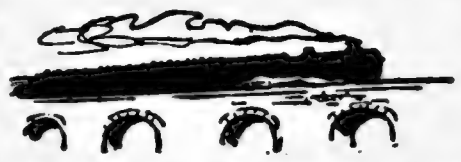
We received so many of his letters in the JOHN BULL office that we used to skim through the post specially for them.

"Here's another cocoa letter," we would say, and then file it in the big dossiers filled with thousands of similar complaints against the railways.

But it wasn't a joking matter. We knew that. It was a little man's legitimate grouse against the untidy muddle and inefficiency of the British railways.

Last month JOHN BULL exposed that muddle in an article, "The Facts About the Rail Chaos"—and startling facts they were.

Gross receipts were down £5,500,000 at the end of October. By the end of this month it is expected that the decrease will be more than £8,000,000.



The article had repercussions. Since then the railways have made colossal efforts to win public help and sympathy.

Most main line stations have been placarded, and nearly all London and provincial newspapers have carried announcements by the companies appealing for a "square deal."

What do they want?

Briefly, they want to fix private rates for goods traffic. They want to be free to alter those rates as between trader and trader, how they like and as often as they like.

They claim that the goods rates restrictions, laid on them by old Acts of Parliament, are ruining them.

They blame road transport, which has no such restrictions, for bringing them to their present plight.

Before they made their appeal to the public, the heads of the railways went to the Minister of Transport with a demand that Parliament should *immediately* give them this freedom.

They back the demand with a threat that, unless it was met, the railways would have to cut workers' wages. They also mentioned a possible rise in passenger fares.

Surely that is no way to enlist public sympathy; but, for the moment, we will let it pass.

On the face of things, it may seem a grave injustice to tie the hands of one competitor and allow the other to profit.

But if we examine the facts behind the railways' case, it does not work out to such an easy answer.

The restrictions of which the railways complain were designed by Parliament for the protection of trade.

They were not permitted to make distinctions as between big and small customers; they could not refuse business, and they had to quote low rates for essential industrial materials like coal, steel and heavy machinery, recouping themselves from higher rated goods.

Now they protest that high-rated traffic has been taken from them by the roads, and therefore, in future, they must be allowed to please themselves about what they will charge for all traffic.

Whatever one may think about that argument, the railways deserve little sympathy. They can blame themselves for much of the loss of traffic.

For years "John Bull" has been deluged with complaints from traders about the way in which their goods have been handled by a lethargic railway system. The little Hampshire grocer was only one of many who kicked and grumbled.

The railways have lost to the roads, not so much because of undercutting, but because road transport gives better service.

As far as low-rated traffic is concerned, the railways declare that there is no longer a sufficient margin of profit to cover charges of stock. Nobody can deny that loss of trade and the decline in such industries as coal has hurt them.

But it is only in the past two or three years that they have wakened to the fact that bigger wagons, larger and more economical containers would show them a larger margin of profit.

Blaming the roads for all their troubles will get the railways nowhere. And it is an argument with a dangerous double-edge.

For the railways themselves are the biggest individual stockholders in road haulage. In addition, they run more than 10,000 goods vehicles, far more than any individual or group transport company.

We do not deny that there has been a certain amount of road competition, which the railways might be justified in calling unfair.

But other road operators complain about such price-cutting tactics even more loudly than the railways.

Now let us see what the railways have done to recapture some of their lost trade.

Not long ago more than £25,000,000 was made available to them at low rates of interest and backed by Government guarantee.

How much of that was used to reduce freight rates?

Instead, rates went up 5 per cent. in October.

How much was spent on speeding up goods carriage, on rolling stock, what improvements were made in goods handling?

We can find little evidence of such changes in the companies' reports.

WHAT WE DO DISCOVER IS THAT SINCE THE MONEY WAS MADE AVAILABLE THE COMPANIES HAVE SPENT HUGE SUMS IN BUYING UP ROAD TRANSPORT ORGANISATIONS.

In 1931 there was a Royal Commission on Transport. It pointed out that:

(1) Railways had not paid enough attention to the needs of the public.

(2) To meet road competition, they must satisfy requirements of traders, or lose more traffic.

(3) Money would be better spent on electrification than on buying up road companies.

(4) Larger wagons and more containers would benefit both traders and the railways.

(5) Practically no improvement had been made in locomotive speeds during the last eighty years. Services should be overhauled and speeded up.

Seven years have passed since these recommendations were made, but for all the notice which has been taken of them the Commission merely wasted time and money.

Yet the railways are now crying havoc and ruin.

The railways are private enterprises with capital of £1,100,000,000. This year, despite the drop in receipts, they will make a total *profit* of about £30,000,000. That figure is large, but still not large enough to give shareholders an adequate return on their money.

When other forms of private enterprise find themselves in similar difficulties they adopt expedients like writing down excessive capital burdens.

But not the railways. Apparently the State, their workers, and the public must provide a cure for their difficulties.

If JOHN BULL seems to have presented the case heavily against the railways, we do so as a candid friend. Rail transport is an essential part of the fabric of this country's life, and it must be saved.

But it is not going to be saved with all its present sins and shortcomings at the expense of the country.

The claims the railways make for the right to fix their freight rates as they please can never be conceded.

The first thing would be a rates war between road and rail.

Equally, it is no solution to place road transport under the same restrictions as the railways.

What we need is co-operation between the two forms of transport—and that can only be achieved by the State control of the iron-way.

We need a National Transport Board controlling *all* transport, balancing rates and allotting business under a unified direction.

...nation depends on its ...efore of grave national ...ow on these pages, two ..., the railways and ship- ...isaster. Both can be ... act in time.

A Million Haunted Families

UNLESS a miracle happens, the livelihood of a million British workers, skilled and unskilled, may disappear in the next few months.

This spectre is shadowing their homes, because on New Year's Day there will be only 500,000 tons of merchant tonnage on the stocks and in the fitting-out basins of the country's shipyards — less than a quarter of their capacity.

And because, when this comparatively small amount of tonnage is completed, there will not be even an equivalent tonnage to take its place.

The berths are emptying fast, and the order books are empty.

Before Spring three out of four of the shipyards may be idle.

As work slows down, the consequences will become tragic all over the country—in the steel foundries, the mines, the engine shops, in a score of auxiliary and subsidiary trades, on the railways and in a hundred inland towns from which shipping gets its furnishings and equipment.

And the most extraordinary fact of all is that nothing is being done to stave off the ruin which threatens to overwhelm what, for a thousand years, has been the primary industry of a people dependent on the sea for the carriage of its food and raw materials.

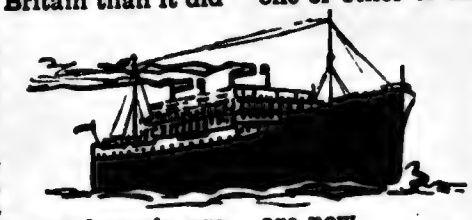
But now thirty-four trade unions, with a million and a half members wholly or partly menaced, are to play a part. Independently, if necessary, they intend to take the fullest action in their power to rouse the Government and the nation to realities.

A false impression exists that the immediate future of shipbuilding has been made secure by naval rearmament. Only sixteen out of sixty shipbuilding yards can undertake this kind of work, all orders they have in hand for the Admiralty are nearing completion and effective work on new warships cannot begin until next summer.

In any case, even at its maximum, naval construction gives only a semblance of activity to shipbuilding and—like all arms manufacture—the benefit it offers in employment and wages is infinitesimal compared with the cost.

Lately, our share of the world output of new ships has fallen from eight to three in ten. In a few weeks three-quarters of our production capacity will be out of service. In a few months, much more. . . .

To-day it costs 50 per cent. more to build a ship in Britain than it did two years ago. And our price is now double the lowest quotation of any foreign competitor.



Indeed, so much lower is the price at which some Continental yards are offering to build ships, that it would be useless to try to compete with them, even if the British workers were prepared to labour without wages and their employers to forgo all hope of profit.

The reason is rearmament—and the failure of the Government to put any curb on the fantastic profits which are being earned in the armament industries.

Material accounts for more than 70 per cent. of the cost of a ship, and its builders are now at the mercy of those from whom they must obtain supplies.

So, if shipowners, British or foreign, want new tonnage they are not likely to buy it in this country.

Much worse than that. Although a large proportion of the British merchant fleet is becoming obsolete and needs to be replaced by faster ships, its owners are without any inducement to make such renewals—far less to bring it up to the strength necessary for public safety in time of emergency.

They have lost the trade that warrants the maintenance of the mercantile marine, even at its present standards.

The people of Britain, in fact, are at the day of reckoning for the post-war Protectionists' policy of tariffs, import quotas and subsidies imposed in the desperate but futile effort to stem the rise of unemployment.

True, tariffs, quotas and subsidies have provided extra work in some new factories. But mostly to girls and women at low wages. And for every girl so employed, four men in one or other of our maritime industries are thrown out of work.

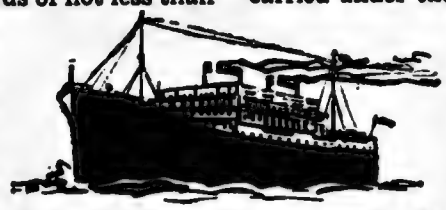
If war came, the consequences of armaments profiteering and of Protection would be still worse than they are now.

TO-DAY WE HAVE 2,000 FEWER MERCHANT SHIPS THAN WE POSSESSED IN 1914.

Since then, most foreign countries have awakened to the fact that there is no secret in successful ship construction, or in the knowledge of naval architecture and marine engineering, which had been the monopoly of Britain.

So, using every conceivable expedient for building, such as State subsidies, exploitation of depreciated currencies, ruthless undercutting of wages, hours and general labour standards, and operating their ships under conditions which British seamen would not tolerate, they have joined in a fierce war to drive the Red Ensign off the trade routes of the world.

In addition to building for their own needs, they have also deprived the British shipyards of not less than £1,000,000,000 by selling ships to other nations.



More than one - half of the ships now built in Germany are for foreign countries—sold to them at a completely uneconomic price, made possible by a 30 per cent. subsidy to the builders.

For this reason Germany has a programme which will keep her yards working at top speed for the next three years.

As in Germany, so in Holland, Denmark and Italy.

Still more savage is Japan's blow. Once Britain's best customer for ships, she is now building two ships for each one added to the British merchant navy.

Japan has built enough ships to serve her own trade four times over, and in the next twelve months will have produced tonnage to meet her national needs six times over.

She is selling the surplus cheaply—£1 worth for 12s.—to the maritime competitors who seek to humble Britain on the Eastern seas.

What, then, is to be done if Britannia is not to have her trident wrested from her grasp?

The solution will not be found in temporary subsidies, enforcing a reduction of steel prices, or in the more even distribution of Admiralty orders. These things may be necessary or desirable, but at the best they would give only momentary relief.

Should we fight our foreign competitors with their own weapons? So far we have not done so for fear of reprisals and retaliation.

Should we make it a condition, as most other countries do, that, according to circumstances, goods which we buy from them should be carried under the British flag?

A beginning in this direction might be made with Britain's Empire trade. We have a complete scheme of Imperial preference — **without preference to British ships to carry the goods.**

For want of it, nearly one-half of the outward and inward cargoes on which the commercial existence of the Empire depends are borne by foreign-owned vessels.

Should the British Government regard the expansion of the merchant navy as part of its defence and rearmament plans, and build a shadow cargo fleet of 2,000,000 tons to meet the minimum requirements of an emergency?

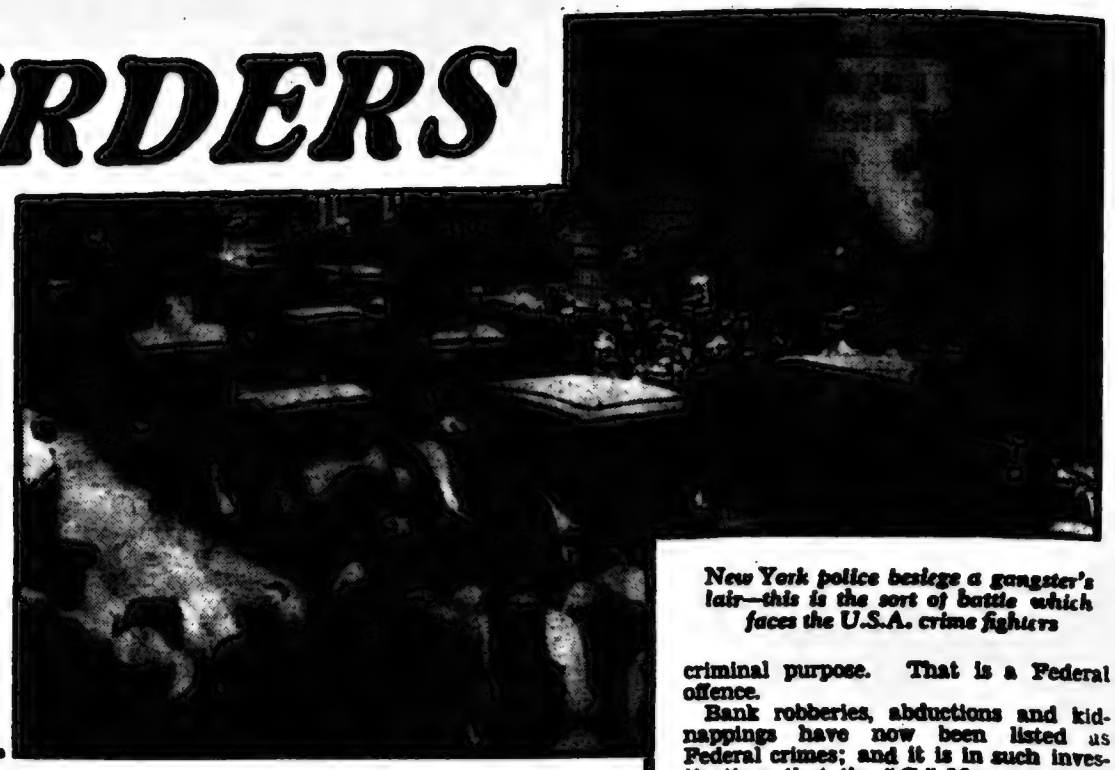
With new naval construction, such a policy would certainly provide two years' work for every one of the sixty British shipyards now in peril of becoming idle.

But we must strike even deeper at the problem, if we are to eradicate it completely.

Two things must be done, and done now.

We must end profiteering in the armament industries, and so bring down the cost of material to the shipyards. And we must reshape our international economic policy so that our shipbuilders and mercantile marine may be assured of their proper share of world trade.

30 MURDERS EVERY DAY



New York police besiege a gangster's lair—this is the sort of battle which faces the U.S.A. crime fighters

Continuing "C.I.D."

a series which takes you inside the headquarters of the world's great crime-fighting organisations. By Fleet-street's most famous crime reporter—

Stanley Bishop

MORE than two hundred thousand people now living in the United States of America will commit murder.

The average taxpayer in the States has to contribute at least £25 towards the nation's yearly crime bill of £450,000,000—a total that would knock the budget of most European countries sideways.

Clothe these figures with imagination and you have a picture of the vast underworld which rules the New World from the Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic.

But my task is not to describe the "rackets" and the kings of crime who direct them. It is to describe how America is fighting the menace of the men and women who prey on society.

Throughout the country there are more than 30,000 different police forces and agencies, ranging from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with its headquarters in Washington, to the sheriff and his part-time deputies in the cattle towns of the West.

Each State, each city, each town has its own police force. And they are kept pretty busy.

For America has an average of thirty murders a day, and its jails house 65,000 criminals '(there are fewer than 10,000 in British prisons).

During a three-months' period not long ago New York recorded 105 murders, 283 robberies with violence, and 656 serious burglaries. For the same period Chicago recorded 65 murders, 2,221 robberies with violence, and 4,214 burglaries.

Crime has such a stranglehold upon America because of its unwieldy crime-fighting machine.

Through a lawyer's eyes, the different States in the Union might just as well be different countries.

All sorts of complicated extradition problems arise when a suspect, wanted by one State, escapes over the border into another.

American criminals, schooled in the days of Prohibition, when law-breaking assumed the ramifications of big business, know every loophole through which they can slink to freedom.

The Federal Bureau, with its 600 "G" (Government) Men, under J. Edgar Hoover, alone has power in all States and cities—and then in respect of only a limited range of offences against *Federal laws.*

Not even for murder can there be a nation-wide man-hunt in the States until the "G" Men come into the picture.

WHY else, do you think, American racketeers and gunmen remain at large for so long? They can dodge. They can hide. They can go scot-free.

Providing they are careful not to break a Federal law.

Once they make that mistake, Hoover and his "G" Men take up the trail. That is the time when gangsters begin to shiver.

Hoover, at forty-three, is the most publicised detective in the world. His men are college trained in law and forensic medicine, and each must be an expert in some phase of detective work.

They are also schooled in fighting, and in the basement of the Bureau's headquarters is a revolver and rifle range where recruits must practise and pass tests in quick and accurate shooting.

Escapes and raids are staged on the range with dummy figures, and unless a man can register 75 per cent. of hits on a moving target in artificial twilight he is not considered worth a place in the "front line" of the battle against crime.

The present record holder is Special Agent Walter Walsh, who scored 298 "killing hits" out of 300 with a service revolver.

Walsh is a key-man and highly paid. The men under him begin at £750 a year and, believe me, they earn their salaries.

Among Hoover's achievements is the establishment of a national finger-print register.

The files of his department hold 8,000,000 different prints, and 500 new prints are received every day.

Before this department was organised there was no link-up between the State, city and local police forces over finger-print comparisons.

NOW, a finger-print found on the scene of a murder in Hollywood is wired—through a code system—to Washington.

Within an hour Washington will telegraph back if the print is one among the 8,000,000, giving the name of the individual, his home town, his associates, his habits, and everything known about him since the day he was born.

The laboratory of the Bureau is equally well equipped.

To detect forgeries, experts there use an appliance called the "parallel light ray," which brings into clear relief any marks made on paper.

A letter is written on the first sheet of a writing-pad, torn off and posted.

Send the apparently blank pad to Washington and, from the impressions on the second sheet, the ray machine will reproduce the letter in shadow outlines.

Scores of blackmailers have been trapped by this device.

One of them was Giuseppe Bartimoccia, of New York, who was engaged in the extortion racket on a big scale. He picked names from the telephone directory and then sent letters demanding money on pain of death.

THE letters were signed "The Gangsters," and sprinkled with red nail polish or iodine to look like blood stains.

He preyed on 250 people, at least twelve of whom took their lives, before he was sent to Sing Sing by the "G" Men.

Their help was enlisted not because of Bartimoccia's blackmailing, but because he was using the mails for a criminal purpose. That is a Federal offence.

Bank robberies, abductions and kidnappings have now been listed as Federal crimes; and it is in such investigations that the "G" Men come into contact with the gunmen who have written their names across the Continent in blood and headlines.

Some time ago Hoover was questioned by a member of the Department of Justice about his gangster campaign. He replied:

"I'm going to tell the truth about these rats. I'm going to tell the truth about the miserable politicians who protect them, and the 'convict lovers' who let them out on ill-advised parole. If the people don't like it, they can get me fired."

The dossiers of the Federal Bureau certainly do tell amazing stories.

One section is given over to crooked lawyers, of whom Hoover declares: They form the backbone, the brain and

(*Continued on page 26*)

SPECIAL XMAS ATTRACTION!

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RADIOGRAM

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Without a radiogram you are in other people's hands for your Christmas music and entertainment—this is one of many occasions during the year when only a radiogram can keep things going all the time. Make a point of seeing this Marconiphone 19 guinea all-wave superhet radiogram—without question the finest value in radio to-day—a model which ensures for you first-class radio reception and gramophone reproduction for years to come.

PRIORITY COUPON

Fill in your name and address below and post to The Marconiphone Company Ltd., Radio House, Tottenham Court Road, London, W.1, and we will ensure that everything possible is done to secure delivery of this model for you in good time for Christmas.

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.....

DINGY TEETH NOW WHITENED EASILY! MAGNESIA DOES IT.

A real discovery has been made about the teeth. Readers who are tired of trying new dentifrices claiming to make their teeth white overnight, should try what actually does whiten teeth—surely and safely.

From the time you begin to use this simple chemistry on your teeth, they will be distinctly whiter. You won't have to imagine the improvement. You can see it plainly. Your friends will notice it. Phillips' Dental Magnesia is what you use, and the dullest teeth brighten and whiten under it.

This is no trouble, takes no extra time. Simply get the dentifrice which the dental profession now recommends for care of the teeth—Phillips' Dental Magnesia. It contains 'Milk of Magnesia,' which dissolves all stains. Ordinary dentifrices with magnesia in them may not do any harm, but they do not give the whitening action of 'Milk of Magnesia.'

But dentists are urging the use of this dentifrice for other reasons! Phillips' Dental Magnesia, containing 75% 'Milk of Magnesia,' is the most effective neutralizer of destructive mouth acids that has yet come to light. Tartar makes little headway in the mouth that is kept alkaline by regular use of Phillips' Dental Magnesia. It keeps the gums hard and the gumline fortified. And, as we have said, the teeth as white as if they had been "bleached." The words 'Milk of Magnesia' referred to by the writer of this article constitute the trade mark distinguishing Phillips' preparation of Magnesia as originally prepared by The Charles H. Phillips Chemical Co. To obtain the dentifrice recommended ask for Phillips' Dental Magnesia. Price 6d., 10½d., 1/6 the tube of all chemists and stores.

MECCANO

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Prices of Complete Outfits from 3/- to 255/-.

A fine new catalogue—FREE to boys!

You must have this complete 72-page catalogue. Get it from your dealer to-day, or write to us for a copy, enclosing the names and addresses of three of your chums.

The catalogue contains full details and illustrations of the complete range of Meccano Quality Toys. It will help you to choose your present for Christmas.

MECCANO LTD. (DEPT. 37), BINNS ROAD, LIVERPOOL, 13.

Here are three fine models made entirely with Meccano.

MECCANO LTD. LIVERPOOL 13

"John Bull" Guarantee.

EVERY article advertised in "John Bull" carries with it a "money-back" guarantee :—

All foods, food products, toilet preparations, medicines and drugs, and other articles capable of a laboratory test which have been approved by our experts are marked— In the case of medicines and drugs we guarantee that if they are taken or applied according to the directions they will have no injurious effects.

Naturally this guarantee applies only to manufactured articles, but every care is taken to satisfy ourselves as to the bona-fides of all advertisements in "John Bull." Any complaint must reach us within one month from the appearance of the advertisement in "John Bull," and in the case of dispute the decision of our Managing Director shall be final.

ODHAMS PRESS LIMITED, Proprietors of "John Bull."

SUPER BeTox

Flavour equal to the FINEST BEEF EXTRACT

SUPER BETOX *thinly spread is simply grand on buttered bread*

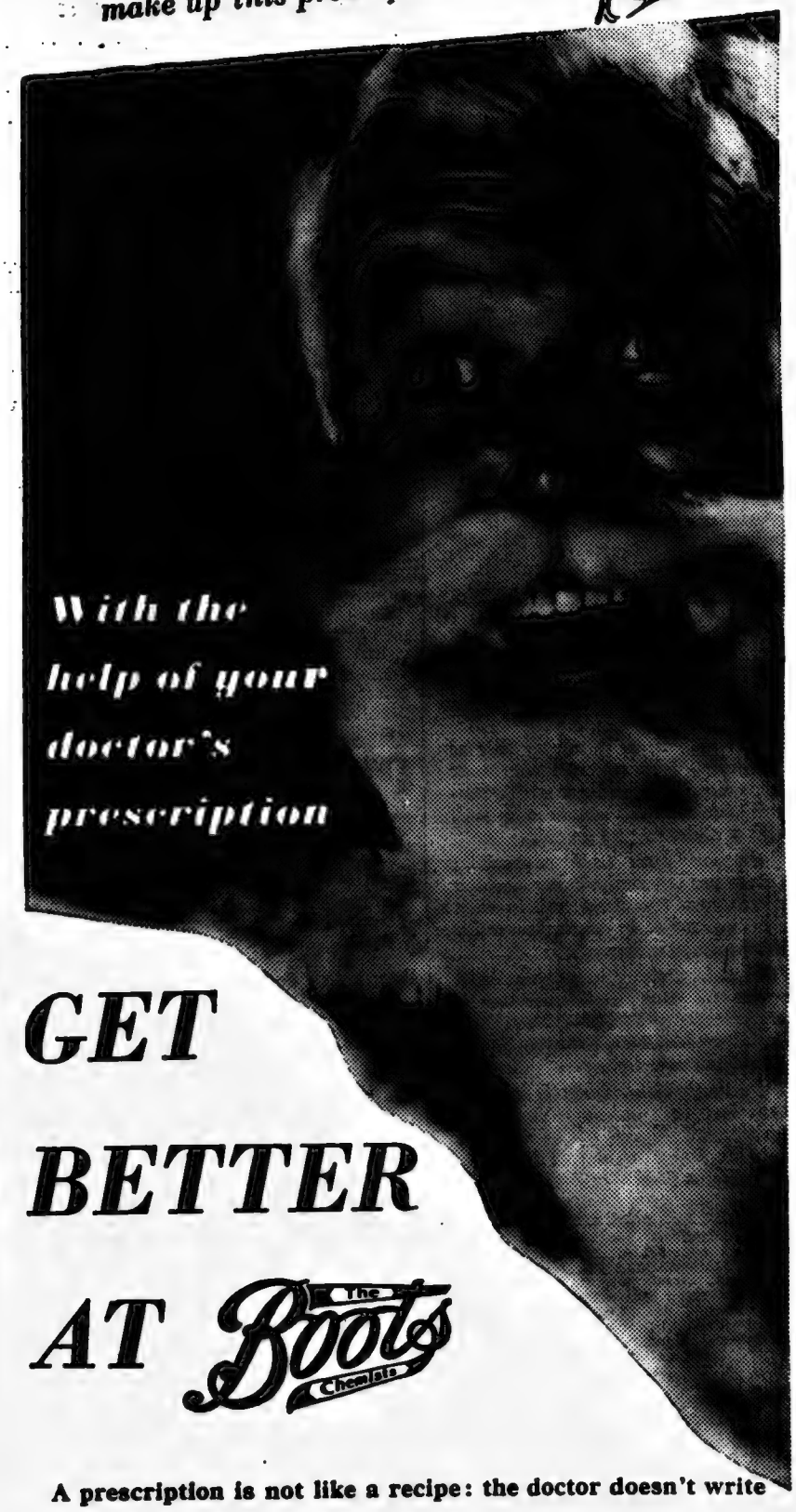
A Delicious Beverage and Tasty Sandwich-Spread

3 oz. Jar 8d ... 8 oz. 1/2d ... 1 lb. 2/2d

From all Grocers — Ask for SUPER BETOX.

HUGE VALUE 3 OZ 6D

"He'll be fit in time to play Santa Claus—just ask your chemist to make up this prescription"



GET BETTER AT Boots The Chemists

A prescription is not like a recipe: the doctor doesn't write 'a little' of this or 'a pinch' of that. Everything is indicated *exactly*, because even the slightest variation may make a difference. And in every branch of Boots there is a fully qualified chemist to see that your doctor's instructions are followed to the smallest detail, and that only pure and fresh ingredients are used. Boots have been family chemists now for over half a century. And that long experience can play quite a part in helping you back to health.

BOOTS PURE DRUG CO. LTD., NOTTINGHAM

BP.178

DRY SCALP ruins the appearance of your hair

Use this **HAIR DRESSING** *that ends Dry Scalp*

There's nothing so deadly to hair as Dry Scalp. It starts with your hair feeling dry, then you get scurf, dandruff, the hairs fall out or snap and break and finally you go bald.

'Vaseline' Hair Tonic is specially made to end Dry Scalp. Every morning sprinkle on a few drops, rub in with finger-tips until scalp tingles pleasantly. Then brush your hair.

This hair dressing keeps your hair perfectly in place; *at the same time it does your scalp good all day long.* Soon your hair will be healthier, stronger. You'll *feel* and *look* smarter.

'Vaseline' Hair Tonic is a very economical hair dressing. You need only a little. 1/6 and 3/- (3 times as much in larger bottle). Prices not applicable to Eire.

MARVELLOUS FREE OFFER
For a trial bottle of 'Vaseline' Hair Tonic and a packet of 'Vaseline' Soapless Shampoo send two penny stamps (to cover postage, etc.) with your name and address (in block letters) to Dept. JB 20 Chesebrough Manfg. Co. Cons'd.) Victoria Road, London, N.W.10.

Vaseline HAIR TONIC

The hair dressing that ends DRY SCALP

NEW!
'VASELINE' SOAPLESS SHAMPOO makes your scalp cleaner! (Soap leaves scum on scalp as on side of bath.) Price 4d.

Thirty Murders a Day

(Continued from previous page)

the clearing house for most of our vicious elements."

Notorious among these legal black sheep was Louis Phillip Piquett, who formerly held the position of Prosecutor for the City of Chicago.

Off duty he was the associate and adviser of gunmen, murderers and racketeers.

When a fugitive gangster wanted to change his appearance or alter his finger-prints, it was Piquett who arranged the necessary operation.

He did that for John Dillinger, "Public Enemy No. 1," and charged a fee of £1,200 for the service.

After Dillinger was shot down outside a Chicago cinema, all those who aided and harboured him were rounded up—Piquett included.

Piquett, however, secured an acquittal.

He pleaded that Dillinger was his client, and that he had acted quite properly in guarding the interests of a client.

But the "G" Men did not forget. They arrested Piquett again on the charge of harbouring a bandit named Homer Van Meter, with whom, previously, he had never had dealings.

This time Piquett's stormings and pleadings in the witness-box were in vain.

He was sentenced to two years' imprisonment, and disbarred from legal practice by the Supreme Court of the State.

PIQUETT'S conviction is typical of the way in which the "G" men work.

They hunt the principals from State to State, from hide-out to hide-out, until they are cornered, and either shot or captured.

After that, everyone who has helped the fugitive, or is known to mix with his gang, is scooped up.

In this way "G" Men discovered the secret of Dr. Joseph Moran, physician-in-ordinary to the underworld.

J. Edgar Hoover, Chief of America's "G" men, leads the fight against the Underworld

"Doc" Moran was called in by gangsters whenever a man was wounded in a robbery or gun battle. He was also an expert in plastic surgery and skin-grafting, and could alter a criminal's face so that even his wife or mother would not recognise him.

Yet, while aiding and abetting the gangsters, Dr. Moran was outwardly leading a blameless life as a fashionable practitioner in Chicago.

Greed caused his downfall. He charged such high fees that the gangsters became restless.

Then one of his facial operations failed.

Dr. Moran was "taken for a ride."

If that had not happened, he would have been arrested by the "G" Men.

One aspect of American crime which is causing the authorities, State, City and Federal, increasing alarm is the growing army of women crooks.

New York's Police Commissioner, Lewis J. Valentine, has recently recruited a corps of "Glamour Girl" detectives who will try to enforce the law among their own sex.

These girls have been selected for their physique, good looks and intelligence.

They can mix in any company, and, for protection, carry wicked, little automatic pistols in their vanity bags.

The duty of these girl detectives is to ferret out active women criminals, the consorts of racketeers, and those who are engaged in white slavery.

State police and "G" Men do not intend that, in future, any woman should climb to leadership in the underworld, as did "Mother" Baker and Kathryn Kelly, two of the most merciless crooks of all time.

"MOTHER" BAKER brought up her four sons as bank-robbers, and died fighting off the police with a machine-gun.

Kathryn Kelly was a different type.

Beautiful and well educated, she is doing a life sentence for her share in kidnappings and hold-ups.

From prison she writes well-phrased letters protesting her innocence.

Her arrest and conviction, a triumph of detective work, had one unfortunate repercussion.

It began the squabble for laurels between "G" Men and city police, which, according to latest reports, is growing increasingly fierce.

City police claim they do all the hard and difficult work, and then, towards the end of sensational cases, the "G" Men come along and get the cheers.

There is a good deal in their case, and undoubtedly the city detectives are exceptionally skilful.

Here's a good example of what the New York men can do.

SOME years ago a skeleton was found buried under the floor of a house in Powell Street, Brooklyn.

A few brown hairs still adhered to the skull, which was fractured, and the lower jaw contained two gold teeth.

Medical experts gave the opinion that the skeleton was that of an Italian, and, using plastic clay, built up the features of the skull. The whole was coloured, dark glass eyes and dark hair added, and the result was photographed.

From that photograph—built up entirely on the deductions of the scientists—the dead man was identified, and his murderer was arrested.

The Human Machine

Christmas Recipe

WITH Christmas only a week or two away, now is the time to discover how you can really use your mind and your imagination.

For the way in which you deal with Christmas will be more or less the way in which you deal with all the other things that make up what we call Life.

Christmas—and in particular Christmas Day—is not something that happens automatically every year because the calendar says "December 25."

It happens in its real sense with all its real atmosphere—or lack of it—to the exact extent to which we make it happen.

We can have a happy Christmas only if we *make* a happy Christmas. Unless we get a tree and decorate it, decorate our rooms, have a different dinner from the ones we usually have, give presents and radiate kind thoughts and good wishes, there will be no happy Christmas for us or anybody round us.

"Gold Is Where You Find It," says the film title. Someone might make another good film entitled "Happiness Is Where You Make It."

Let us, if you will, agree that Christmas is a lot of sentiment. Is it any the worse for that?

Let us agree there is a lot of pretending. Well, what harm does that do?

Isn't it true that, just because we all make a special effort, we are all happier and jollier at Christmas than we are at any other time of the year?

And just because we all go about deliberately creating happiness and manufacturing good will. It is really a very simple recipe, isn't it?

It is one always ready to our hand, and therefore it is surprising that most of us make use of it only for a few days each year.

GOOD VALUE

SANDEMAN
THREE STAR PORT
6/- *per bottle*
Is an excellent wine and wonderful value for money.

SANDEMAN PICADOR
7/6 *per bottle*
Is better still. If you want a luxury wine—none better in the world—ask for Sandeman Imperial.
12/- *per bottle*
Other Wines from 5/-.

SANDEMAN
PORT

CO-OP SLASH COCOA PRICES

5D now 5D

Quality exactly the same . . . It is the large sales of Co-op "Lutona" Cocoas and the Co-operative method of trading that make such amazing value possible. There is no other brand of comparable quality selling at the same low price. Buy a tin today. Co-operation is open to all!

FREE GIFTS With "Lutona" Cocoas are free coupons. Save these for Free Gifts and Free Holiday Rail Travel. Co-op "Prescription" Tea coupons and those from certain other Co-op blends are also available.

BUY "LUTONA" MATURED, MILD OR "SILVER BADGE" AT ANY CO-OP STORE

CO-OP "Lutona" COCOAS

LUTONA Cocoa as Good as the Best, Cheaper than the Rest—LUTONA.

Issued by The English & Scottish Jt. Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd., London, Luton, Manchester, etc.

A charming young lady named Kate
Woke up Christmas morn very late:
Said she, with great glee
"Oh! What do I see

1ST. PRIZE £15
2ND £5 3RD £3 4TH £2
TEN PRIZES each £1

SOME RHYMES:

Bait, abate, await, advocate, agitate, calculate, captivate, celebrate, congratulate, date, debate, educate, elate, fate, fête, fortunate, great, hate, hesitate, investigate, intimate, late, mate, rate, radiate, skate, slate, straight, stimulate, tolerate, wait, weight.

CONDITIONS.

The Proprietors of 'Diploma' Crustless Cheese offer a first prize of £15 and other prizes, as stated, for what they consider the best last line to this Limerick. Write your last line on paper and attach the coloured label from a portion of 'Diploma' Crustless Cheese (either Cheddar, Cheshire or Dunlop). Send as many attempts as you like, which may all be on one sheet, but for each must be attached a label. The Lines will come before a competent staff of adjudicators. The Managing Director's decision is final and legally binding. Address to:

Competition (Dept. 12), WILTS UNITED DAIRIES LTD., TROWBRIDGE, WILTS.

Closing Date: Friday, December 16, 1938.
A List of Winners will be sent to every competitor.

'DIPLOMA' The ENGLISH CRUSTLESS CHEESE
Cheddar or Cheshire 6d. and 1/- per box. D.416a.

Before buying Your Radio
—get particulars of the latest and greatest values in receivers. Don't overlook the offers made by H.M.V. (front cover), BUSH (page 12), and MARCONIPHONE (page 24). Get full particulars of each model illustrated by writing, mentioning "John Bull," for free illustrated catalogues, or simply fill in the coupons where they appear in the announcement.

You feel better IN ONE MINUTE after Wincarnis

THE 'NO-WAITING' TONIC

Read how weak, nervy, tired men and women can regain robust health and good looks again—this amazing 'NO-WAITING' WAY.

FEEL BETTER QUICK AND YOU GET BETTER QUICK—
say Doctors

WINCARNIS gives you the WILL TO GET WELL! You don't wait weary weeks to feel better—you feel better AT ONCE—and that's half the battle, as any doctor knows. Your body actually *eats* healthy blood. And Wincarnis strengthens your blood THE SAME MINUTE that you drink a glassful.

20,000 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM MEDICAL MEN

Why has Wincarnis, the 'NO-WAITING' TONIC, over 20,000 recommendations from Medical Men? Because doctors *know* that it steadily *rebuilds* your body cells—does not lower you, like pain-killing drugs. They *know* that Wincarnis pumps 2 kinds of Vitamins essential to life into your blood: that its rich extracts actually become MORE EFFECTIVE because they are blended in Wine! Get Wincarnis NOW!

NERVES, WORRY, ANÆMIA, INDIGESTION, WEAKNESS, SLEEPLESSNESS?

Read this*— *For weeks I had been feeling nervy and weak as a kitten. The slightest things worried me, I snapped at my wife and family and I could not concentrate on my work. Life was becoming torture for me, day and night. *Nothing I took seemed to do me any good. Then one day my wife bought me a bottle of Wincarnis. I KNEW FROM THE FIRST GLASS WINCARNIS WAS GOING TO MAKE ME O.K. AGAIN! My appetite and my confidence returned and in next to no time I was my healthy, cheerful self, like a young man again. My wife says it is wonderful and I agree.'* These words of gratitude are only typical of THOUSANDS of letters received by Wincarnis.

SICK MEN CRUEL TO THEIR WIVES!

WHEN YOU are ill your mind becomes subconsciously filled with your own worries. Other people's troubles seem unimportant to you. You have no sympathy left for your wife, your children, your friends—or your boss. AFFECTION QUICKLY DIES . . suspicion and anger grow. That is why people who stay Weak, Nervy and Ill often WRECK THEIR HOMES, smash up friendships—and lose their jobs.

DON'T FLIRT WITH DISASTER . . . if Nerves, Indigestion, Worry have weakened your health, seize the amazing 'NO-WAITING' way back to Electric Vitality, Good Looks, Charm, Health and Happiness again. Go *at once* to your nearest Wine and Spirit Merchant, Licensed Grocer or Licensed Chemist, and fetch home a bottle of Wincarnis. In ONE MINUTE your self-confidence comes back, your Health starts flowing back into your blood—and in a remarkably short time you will become Happy, Popular and Healthy again!

Thousands of families have been made happy again by Wincarnis, the 'NO-WAITING' Tonic.

Short Story by Aird Galloway

Jean was shunned in the little mining village because she came from the city and hated the Pit, and all the horror and danger that it symbolised. Then came her greatest test . . .

He stared at her. "You bet," he said, "and I'm going, back now"

ONE in a CROWD

THEY heard the rumble of the explosion down in the village. A tremor ran through the houses like a sudden agony of pain, and the window-frames shook and rattled as if the whole earth was trembling with fear.

Jean was washing up after her solitary dinner, and she stood with a wet cloth dripping in her hands, her dark head erect and her eyes puzzled as she stared out of the window and across the deserted street.

It had come so suddenly, like a blast of wind that blew from nowhere and filled everywhere with muttering terror.

And, quick as a startled breath, it was gone again, leaving a strange, unreal quiet.

Across the way she saw the doors open—the Hardies's, the Nicholson's, the Breal's, the Springle's—and men and women gathered on the pavements and looked in one direction, towards the Deeps Colliery, whose pithead frame surmounted the hill above the village.

The women were white-faced. Some were wringing their floral aprons into tight screws in their nervous fingers, and others were wrapping coats and shawls about them as they talked and gesticulated, or said nothing at all, and began to walk up the hill. . . .

It was then that Jean knew what had happened.

Horror cried weakly in her throat and something froze up within her till her body was a hard knot of anguish.

Outside, a man's voice was shouting, and people were answering, shrill and inarticulate. She threw up the window, and words thrust in at her like a savage blow in the face. . . .

"It's up at The Deeps. Aye—a bad explosion. An' near a hundred in this shift. . . ."

"O God, and my Dave's there," she muttered aloud, standing motionless.

FEET clattered on the pavement and figures ran past her vision. Up from the fire-station came the ambulance, its bell sounding a shattering alarm across the afternoon's peace.

"O God, keep my Dave safe—keep my Dave safe," she prayed as she ran to the narrow lobby and lifted her coat from the hallstand that still smelled of newness from the furniture store.

She drew the fresh-painted door after her quickly, not bothering to lock it, and as she hurried after the people streaming up the steep hill a wave of bitterness swept over her.

She was only one in a crowd, a stranger in their midst. The others had called on their neighbours—but not on her. They had gone off together, sharing each other's hopes and fears—not caring about her.

It had been like that ever since she had come from Donchester as Dave Role's bride. She knew what they said about her, just because she came from the city, and had worked in a dress shop, and wore smart clothes and had natural wavy hair that looked like an expensive perm.

She knew that they thought her a snob—she knew that they thought that she thought herself too good for them, and didn't want to live in a mining village, and would give anything to see her husband getting a decent job in the city away from the pits.

But that wasn't true . . . except that now, as she broke into a breathless run, and fear turned sick in her stomach, she knew that she would give anything, everything to get away from all this with Dave.

With Dave! But what if Dave—if Dave—if he——

She saw Sergeant Meikle coming down the hill on his cycle, his cape flying in the wind. She shouted across to him:

"Is there any news? Have you heard if—anybody's up?"

He shook his head and braked. "No, we don't know yet. The rescue-brigade's down now. . . ."

She caught up with the others as they were going through the yard gates, and she followed in their wake, weak with anxiety.

ACROSS the siding-rails they scrambled, pushing and squeezing, and Jean hung on the edge of the crowd, straining on tip-toe, listening and watching.

A tremor ran through the watchers and voices droned in sullen repetition . . . "The cage is coming up. . . The cage is coming up. . ."

Oh, if it could be Dave who was coming up from that black hole of horror, Jean thought as she watched the winding wheels spinning high above her, and cutting the steam from the engine-house into scurrying shreds. . . .

"There's a roof fall in the Cardle Section," a man shouted down the line, and somewhere a woman's muffled sobs rose and fell and were silent.

In front of her, Jean saw women with their arms linked, or round each other's shoulders in a bond of sympathy, while she stood alone and unnoticed on the swaying fringe.

Panic overwhelmed her for an instant. A miner, black with coal-dust and congealed sweat, was crossing from one of the outhouses carrying a wooden case.

SHE ran to him, pulling at one of his arms, clutching at a damp sleeve.

"Have you heard of Dave Role?" she asked, her cheeks bloodless.

He looked at her pityingly, and shook his head.

Dave . . . Dave . . . and she pressed forward again, knowing now that she could only serve by waiting. . . .

This is what it means to be a miner's wife, she thought. This is what I've often read in the papers and never realised; this is life hitting out at you because you thought you were so happy, so different from others. . . .

She scarcely knew what a colliery was like until she had met Dave—big, handsome Dave with a twinkle in his blue eyes, and russet-cheeked like a farmer when they went striding across the moors. And with a laugh deep within him like an explosion.

Like an explosion!

Her skin seemed to shrink, tighten and became a cold, brittle shell.

(*Continued on page 30*)

Father and Son find Hobbies fun

making things in their spare time. Why not? It's easy with a Hobbies Fretwork Set. Cutting out in wood and fitting the parts up is a man's job—which any boy enjoys. Make your own presents. You can start now and save money.

With a Hobbies Fretsaw and design you can build model Galleons, Toy Forts, Doll's Houses, Clocks, Mirrors, Furniture of all kinds. Or overlay popular calendar figures or frames, or cards for Xmas. Good fun all round. Free leaflets on request to Dept. 48, Hobbies Ltd., Dereham, Norfolk

Complete sets from 1/6. An ideal present for Xmas or to keep anyone happy. All leading Stores, Bazaars, Ironmongers and Hobbies own Branches.

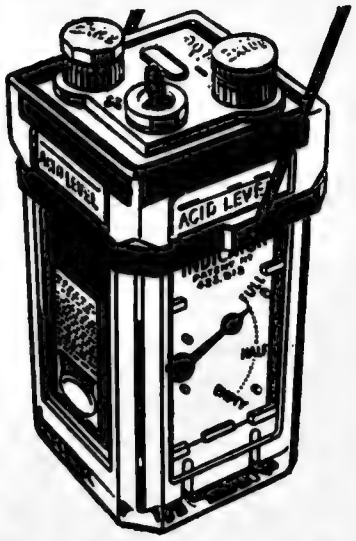
HOBBIES
BRITISH FRETWORK OUTFITS

THE GOOD NATURED LAXATIVE
LIXEN
OF ALL CHEMISTS
Elixir (Liquid) in Bottles 1/- 1/9 2/-
Lozenges in tins 7½° 6 1/-

KISSES WHICH BETRAY!....

need no longer exist. GUITARE, the Parisian lipstick, is "Indelible—Natural—Traceless." It does not wear off and stays on all day. Women who use it will tell you so. GUITARE is obtainable in 14 glowing transparent shades, including the 6 new "Vogue 1939" A, B and C Brick, D, E and F Cyclamen. De luxe model, 4/6, Refills 3/-. Standard size, 2/-, Refills, 1/3. Trial size (enough for one month), 6d. On sale everywhere or C. & N. P. Ltd. (Dept. H.I.5), Wimbledon Factory Estate, Morden Road, London, S.W.19.

FOR FRIENDS with battery radio sets a present of perfect reproduction, reliability, economy.



EXIDE HYCAP—The L.T. battery for modern sets. Prices from 9/3

DRYDEX—the Exide H.T. battery, 120 volts 7/6

Keep this list of Christmas presents, cut it out, it's got something right on the mark for everyone you know.

KIND THOUGHT FOR THE HOUSEWIFE
Drydex Gas Lighter. Press a button and the gas is lit. No more hunting for matches. Complete 5/-

DELIGHT the cyclist with a powerful Drydex Cycle Lamp. It has a beam like a searchlight.
Many types and finishes 1/9 to 7/-

EVERYBODY wants a Drydex torch. A very, very useful present. From 1/- to 7/6

R41b

Give Exide and Drydex
Still keep going when the rest have stopped

All obtainable from any reputable dealer or Exide Service Station. The Chloride Electrical Storage Co. Ltd. (Exide & Drydex Batteries), Exide Works, Clifton Junction, near Manchester. Also at London, Manchester, Birmingham, Bristol, Glasgow, and Belfast.

"A NICE GLASS OF WINE, JACK?"

"Rather! But what's happened, mother. Has dad won the pool at last?"

"No, worse luck! But we've found a real honest-to-goodness full-strength British Wine at a reasonable price—I mean you can't say that one and ninepence per bottle is exactly robbery, can you?"

"Really! But how can they do it, and who does it anyway?"

"Well! It's made by Whiteways and that's a name we know and respect. They import the Grape Juice direct from the Vineyards, make the Wine in Sunny Devon, and so are not subject to the heavy import Duty as on foreign Wines."

"Well! Whiteway's name on the bottle is good enough for me, and there is nothing like a glass of Wine for bucking a fellow up."

WHITEWAY'S

PORT STYLE WINES (RUBY & WHITE) AND BRITISH SHERRY

CVs—23

Phillips TONIC YEAST

FEELING FIT is surely Wealth
Take PHILLIPS YEAST
it gives Good Health

A Splendid Tonic and Natural Remedy for INDIGESTION, NERVES and NEURITIS
Purifies the Blood and clears the Skin.
All Chemists 1/3 & 3/- Always say PHILLIPS

..contains No Drug..
RICH in VITAMIN-B

GOOD OLD EPSOM SALTS
In a bedtime sweet

Now at long last here's Epsom Salts—the laxative you *know*—the laxative doctors have always recommended—in tablet form and sugar-coated! Pleasant to take. Accurately dosed. Thorough, but *natural* in action. No after-pains. Perfectly safe for children. Just one or two Epsotabs at bedtime clear every atom of poison-waste gently, *safely* away. Look for EPSOTABS—THE LAXATIVE in the yellow, red and green carton. Only 2d., 6d. or 1/3. Send for generous free sample to EPSOTABS LTD., (J.B.9.), 59, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.—(Advert.)

VENOS
LIGHTNING
COUGH CURE
Will
STOP *YOUR* COUGH
LIKE LIGHTNING!
Sold Everywhere 1/1½ & 3/- in Bottle

Sonny's Cold is Gone Today

thanks to the 3-Minute Vick Massage

To break up a child's cold quickly — and safely—do this at bed-time: (1) rub Vick brand Vapour-Rub briskly on throat and chest; (2) rub it also on the back; (3) to lengthen and strengthen its double action, spread it thick on the chest and cover with flannel.

Avoids dangerous "dosing"

When you use Vick, there is nothing to swallow, nothing to harm a child's digestion as internal "dosing" so often does. Besides, Vick ends a cold quicker because it brings relief direct to the air-passages—where the cold is rooted. It acts direct through the skin like a poultice, and, at the same time, gives off healing vapours that are inhaled with every breath. Almost at once, the child's breathing is eased, his coughing relieved. He sleeps in comfort, and, by morning, the worst of his cold is over.

VICK VAPOUR-RUB

BEER FOR 1D PER PINT

SPLENDID TONIC & FOOD EASILY MADE AT HOME FROM VIGGORMALT

Pure Extract of Malt and Hops. Free Yeast packed with each tin. Simply add water. Get a 1/- tin of VIGGORMALT to-day from Boots, Taylors, Timothy White's, Co-ops, Chemists, Grocers, etc. Or send stamps or P.O. for 1/- to VIGGORMALT LTD. (Dept. YB), Davigdor Road, Hove, Sussex.

ALE OR STOUT

WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES ME FEEL SO YOUNG?

If you wish to keep young simply take a dose of Beechams Pills whenever you feel you need them. This should be your Golden Rule of Health. Beechams Pills are the purest, safest, most effective laxative the world has ever known—famous for over ninety years. Start a course to-day. You can get them everywhere.

My laxative is

Beechams Pills

for over 90 years the supreme remedy for CONSTIPATION, *Biliousness, Digestive Upsets and Poor Skin*

WORTH A GUINEA A BOX

● Not from the B.B.C.

Lest You Forget

WHO'D win success in marriage
must of tact have quite a lot.
For any kind of marriage will be
due to go to pot
If a husband shows for sentiment
he does not care a jot,
By failing e'en to recollect his
wedding anniversary!
To obviate this state of things,
which makes a woman fret,
The phone exchange will under-
take that husbands who forget
Shall be reminded of a date which,
though they may regret,
Calls for a recognition more than
cursory!

Besides being able to dial TIM when the wife of his bosom begins and finishes putting on her hat, or to dial 999 and get the fire brigade to extinguish a couple of burnt chops, the 'phone subscriber is now to enjoy even more privileges.

Really it makes the P.M.G. sound positively human. Also it suggests other means by which an instrument which is too often a curse might be transformed into a blessing.

What a lot of brain fag stock-brokers and others would be saved if, when told a new story or limerick, they could at once 'phone it to the exchange, to be kept in cold storage till required.

All that would then be necessary when the gang held its next meeting would be for the broker to dial TUT or 000 and explain:

"I say, I distinctly remember 'There was a young lady of Kew, but I'm hanged if I can get any further!"

And the information, however deplorable, would be forthcoming, for, apparently, the telephone, like the elephant, never forgets.

But useful though this mechanical memory is, the P.M.G. should not weary of well-doing, for there are even more noble purposes to which the 'phone could be put.

There are things quite a few that
I'm anxious to do,
But somehow the courage I lack
To tell that ass Brown that he's
just a big clown,
Or to give our cook-general the
sack!

And oh! I would fain make it
pointedly plain,
If my lips were not sealed and
my jaw
Locked with fear I can't shed, that
I'm much more than fed
To the teeth with my mother-in-
law!

Why can't I arrange for the local
exchange
To give the old lady the tip?
And sack the cook-general, tell
Brown he's a wart,
By dialling (say) p-i-p....PIP!

Y. Z.

Able to dial TIM when his wife begins to put her hat on

ONE in a CROWD

(continued from previous page)

She knew now what she would do. Her mind was made up—if only Dave came back safely to her.

Yes, she was different from the other women, for she wasn't big enough for the task. She hadn't been brought up to it. She'd get Dave to leave the pits, get him away to the city, to London, anywhere.

They were not a year married, and every hour together had been a blessing, and come the spring there would be a little one, she reminded herself, as her hands instinctively pulled her coat about her protectively.

She was only one in a crowd, waiting and praying, and made to feel a stranger. . . . But she'd show them, she told herself. She'd show them how she'd get her man to go away from all this.

IF only she had been firm in the first place, instead of letting Dave laugh the fears out of her. He was clever and strong and adaptable. He could drive a car—and there were plenty of jobs driving cars.

It wasn't true when Dave had said there were more people hurt in cars than in the pits—that's how he always joked with her when she was scared. . . . "We've all got our jobs," he had told her, picking her up in his strong arms. "And this is mine—and yours is being a brave little wife, Jean.

"I don't know any other job as well as this; I was brought up in it, and my father and grandfathers before me, and there's coal in my blood. And we can enjoy life, can't we, Jean lass. . . ."

No! No! She clenched her cold fists. After this, she'd never give Dave any more peace till she got him away from it all. She'd slave her fingers to the bones to get him away.

She grew cunning. She'd threaten to leave him—not that she'd ever leave him for a moment. But just to make him go to the city with her.

Over the heads of the women in front of her she saw some stretchers and a crowd of black-faced men. She heard a woman call out a name.

Then she heard somebody laughing hysterically, and found that it was she, herself, who was laughing and crying as she ran forward towards a dear, familiar figure whose head was bare and whose jacket draped his arms like a cape, but did not conceal the snow-white bandages swathing them. . . .

"Dave—oh, Dave," she cried out, and stumbled towards him.

His wounded arms went round her and crushed her to him.

"Why, Jean, lass—I'm all right—I'm all right. There—Jean," he comforted, "don't fret. I'm all right."

HE kissed her, and joy was a warm glow in her chilled being. "Dave, I had to come. I thought . . I thought that . . . that——"

"There, lass!" He patted her head. "I've been helping to clear the fall. Just a few scratches."

He looked down at her and shook his head. "But you shouldn't be here—not like you are——"

"I had to know. I had to see you. I couldn't stay away from being near you. You'll go back now, Dave——"

He stared at her and a grin lit his tired features. "You bet, Jean, I'm going back now——"

"Oh, Dave, I'm that glad."

"That's the spirit, lass," she heard him say triumphantly, and saw the light in his eyes. "I knew you'd never fail me. I've got to go back and help the rescue brigade. We'll need to work like hell for our mates. . . ."

He had misunderstood her. And the pride in him kept her dumb. He was going back—not home, but into the pit—because that was his job, because he couldn't fail his pals, as she had planned to fail him.

SOMETHING new and strange grew within her. A great pride filled her with strength.

He was happy because she wasn't failing him, and he was smiling tenderly at her and she was smiling back at him. . . "I've got to hurry now," he was saying.

"Be—be—careful," she whispered.

He laughed. "Sure. But it's you that needs to be careful, lass."

With that he strode away, turning to wave as he went back towards the cage. She stood for a little, and her uplifted hand was a prayer.

Suddenly she became aware of someone talking to her. She turned and saw Mrs. Nicholson, who lived in the cottages across the way. The elderly woman was looking her up and down with a new kindliness.

"Can't do much good waitin' longer, m'dear," Mrs. Nicholson said. "You're a brave lass cheering your man off like that."

Jean felt a lump swelling in her throat. Mrs. Nicholson had spoken to her, and now Mrs. Cowie, who usually passed her with a dry nod, was encircling an arm round her waist and was saying: "By the look o' you, lass, this doan't be no place for you in your state.

"Come off home wi' you and I'll pal you down the way. . . ."

Jean nodded and tried to speak. But she smiled instead.

Arm-in-arm the three women walked homewards, Jean in the middle.

Her feet stumbled because of the mist in her eyes; but her heart was full with gladness, for she was no longer just one in a crowd. She was one of them. This was her place.

"And the Greatest of These . . ."

JACK is a sad boy just now. He knows the bitter, piteous struggle which his parents are having to keep their home

His father has been out of work for a long time, has recently had an operation, and is still in poor health.

His mother is suffering from general debility due to lack of good food. And there are three children under fourteen!

Bit by bit their bed-clothing has been pawned; now their only clock has gone; the rent is in arrears.

Not less tragic is the plight of young Ronnie, one of a family of nine.

His father, too, is ill—a discharged soldier with no pension, who has been laid-up for six months with bronchitis and sciatica.

The mother needs hospital treatment herself, but who will care for her children while she is away and her husband is sick and workless?

* * *

There's the problem of the rent, besides. With arrears, it amounts to 18s. 8d. a week, and everything of value in the home has already been pawned or sold for food.

A local J.P. supports this family's appeal for help.

Well, can't you do just a little for these despairing families? Subscriptions earmarked "Jack" or "Ronnie" will be devoted to them, and maybe the good deed will make your own Christmas happier.

All donations should be sent to the Hon. Secretary, JOHN BULL War Sufferers' Fund, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

We'll gladly send acknowledgments where names and addresses are given.

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ANGIERS is the answer

To resist and repel colds, influenza, bronchitis, there is nothing better than a course of 'Angiers.' Its soothing effects, and its tonic, invigorating influence upon all the bodily functions, make it unequalled for the prevention of colds and catarrhal affections.

If a cold or a cough has already started, 'Angiers' is the best means of throwing it off and repairing the damage caused.

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This photograph shows seat in extended position.

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We are able to offer this new improved Easy Chair at the price because of enormous output from the great Berkeley factories—the largest in the Kingdom devoted to Upholstery—constant improvement in our methods of production, and direct selling to the public.

You can choose your own Coverings from the wide range available to harmonise with any scheme of decoration. Send Coupon NOW!

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P.J. 223

POST A PICCADILLY PRESENT THIS YEAR

* Humanist

tells you the story of a woman who—

HATED THE FATHER OF HER CHILDREN

A swift infatuation, a passing mood of midsummer madness, an unexpected temptation in a moment of desperation—any of these may have consequences which cause years of distress.

An "adventure" may be nothing more than an episode at the time, but it can break up a happy home and end in tragedy.

When married love is deep and permanent it is one of the most wonderful joys of life.

Now here is an extract from a letter written to me by a distracted wife:

"Oh, how I wish I were a martyr, or could make myself one! My troubles may seem trivial to you, but they mean so much to me.

"I am trying to make my marriage a success. My husband is happy enough, and will not let me have a separation by mutual agreement.

"I have a sweet little boy of two and a half and I suppose that ought to be enough for me, but, much as I love him, that is just the trouble. I cannot go out because of him, and my husband will not stay in while I go out.

"He is so thoughtless and never buys the baby or myself a bar of chocolate without being asked. I am lucky if I get my birthday present a month afterwards. Yet I never forget his.

"I cook well and do my best for him, but I get no appreciation whatever. He takes everything for granted. I could be so happy, even in poverty, if only I had some friends and some affection."

There is a great deal more. The wife has two main sources of misery—the absence of any sort of appreciation and her husband's dirty habits.

He has dirty work to do, but does not wash when he comes home, preferring to sit about "in all his glory." To a sensitive woman this is trying. She feels she cannot stand it.

Yet they are living a married life together.

There can be no genuine happiness for the wife until one of two things happens.

Either the husband must mend his ways, or the wife must get away.

The husband seems to imagine that married happiness is secured by putting on the ring and signing the certificate

He has never thought that a marriage cannot be a success unless both parties make sacrifices and work together.

He ought to realise that his wife is lonely and needs an occasional evening out with her friends, that when she has worked all day to make a good home she deserves a word of encouragement, and that, for her sake, he ought to drop those habits which make her squirm.

Both parties must give as well as take, and each must try to see the other's point of view.

"I have read hundreds of letters from wives who detest their husbands, but still continue to live with them and give them children"

Read the words of another indignant wife:

"In these enlightened days, when there is so much talk of women's freedom, there are many who, like myself, are still slaves, and who have to be thankful for food and shelter.

"My husband is in a decent position and could easily give me pocket-money (apart from house-keeping allowance), yet he always makes me realise that he is the one who earns the money.

"If I dared to go to the pictures there would be a great scene, because I had spent 'his money'; yet he goes himself and never offers to take me with him.

"He buys just what he wants for himself without consulting me, but if I need new clothes I have to take what he thinks suitable, or go without.

"We have been readers of JOHN BULL for many years, and if you print my letter I sincerely hope he will read it and apply it to himself."

Well, I hope so, too. The case is too obvious to need defending.

A cook, a housemaid, a charwoman, and a washerwoman all get money for their services as well as getting their meals. A wife who is all these things at once has a right to a personal allowance.

But that is putting the case on its lowest level. When she is a wife and mother she ought to be treated much better than an employee. She is not an employee, but a fellow-partner.

Of course, in many cases there is no money left over for either husband or wife, and when that is understood they both have to make the best of it.

But this husband has the money and won't part with a penny except for himself.

Has he forgotten the promises he made on his wedding day?

* * *

SEVERAL weeks ago I printed the story of a disagreement between man and wife in which I thought the husband was in the wrong.

I made an appeal to him to think things over and give his wife another chance.

The following week I received a letter of warm thanks from the wife because the message had gone right home.

The man was broadminded enough to see another point of view, and I think the better of him for doing so.

A great deal of selfishness—especially male selfishness—is due to lack of thought. A man often appears mean and miserly when his real fault is that he does not realise what his wife is feeling and wanting.

He just does not understand what is wrong.

Humanist's Page

"Humanist" invites you to seek his advice when you are worried or perplexed. Address your envelope to 93 Long Acre, London, W.C.2, enclosing a stamped envelope for reply. £1 1s. is paid for each letter quoted.

A MAN in the thirties, still single, writes to tell me that he has fallen in love with a widow two or three years younger than himself.

He says:

"She did not love her husband when she married him, and has had to pay dearly for it. She has suffered terribly.

"But can I really believe that she loves me, or does she want to marry merely for convenience?

"Can you tell me what you think, because I cannot understand a woman having children by a man she did not love?"

There are further complications in this problem, but the gist of it lies in that last sentence. Is it possible for a woman to bear children to a man she does not love?

The answer is simple: she can and she often does. I have read hundreds of letters from wives who detest their husbands, but still continue to live with them and to give them children.

It is bad luck for the children, admittedly, but the fact remains. I think the writer is confused because he does not realise that physical passion can exist apart from deep affection and romantic emotion.

Both men and women know—often to their dismay—that it is possible to be carried away by sudden gusts of passion which have no basis in real love.

COUGH, COUGH, COUGH!

If you've got a cough there's only one sensible thing to do about it—and that is to get rid of it *as quickly as ever you can.* If you leave it to run its course the germs will breed and multiply in your throat and lungs, and almost certainly a bad cold will develop with possibly more serious complaints in its wake.

It's no good taking cough mixtures which merely have a temporary soothing effect; you must take something which really *attacks* the germs—and that "something" is Famel Syrup. Famel Syrup is quite different from ordinary cough mixtures. It contains soluble Lactocreosote which is carried by the blood to the throat and lungs and breathing passages, where it acts both as an antiseptic and preventive—making it impossible for germs of coughs and colds to live.

Although Famel has such a powerful effect, it does not cause any distress to your vital organs. Quite the reverse. It calms your throat and removes the feeling of pressure on your chest and lungs, while its tonic properties build up your strength so that your body can defend itself against future attacks. Famel Syrup not only does the job thoroughly, it does it *quickly*. In many cases three or four doses have been enough to destroy the germs altogether. Famel (brand) Syrup—which is a recognised medical product, used regularly by doctors and nurses in hospitals and sanatoria all over the world—is obtainable at your chemist. Prices—1/6 and 3/-.

Famel Syrup
Brand
CONQUERS COUGHS

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Unless the bowels move every day your child will be weakly, peevish, dull and stunted. So if your child is constipated, attend to it without delay. But be careful what you give, because purging weakens a child and leaves the bowels more bound than ever.

Doctors and nurses everywhere advise 'California Syrup of Figs' because they know that to cure constipation you must use a liquid laxative so that you can regulate the dose as the bowels act naturally. You can't do this with pills and tablets.

Give your children a regular weekly dose and see how they love it, how it helps them to grow and thrive. Be sure to get 'California Syrup of Figs' brand 1/3 and 2/6 (economy size) of all chemists.

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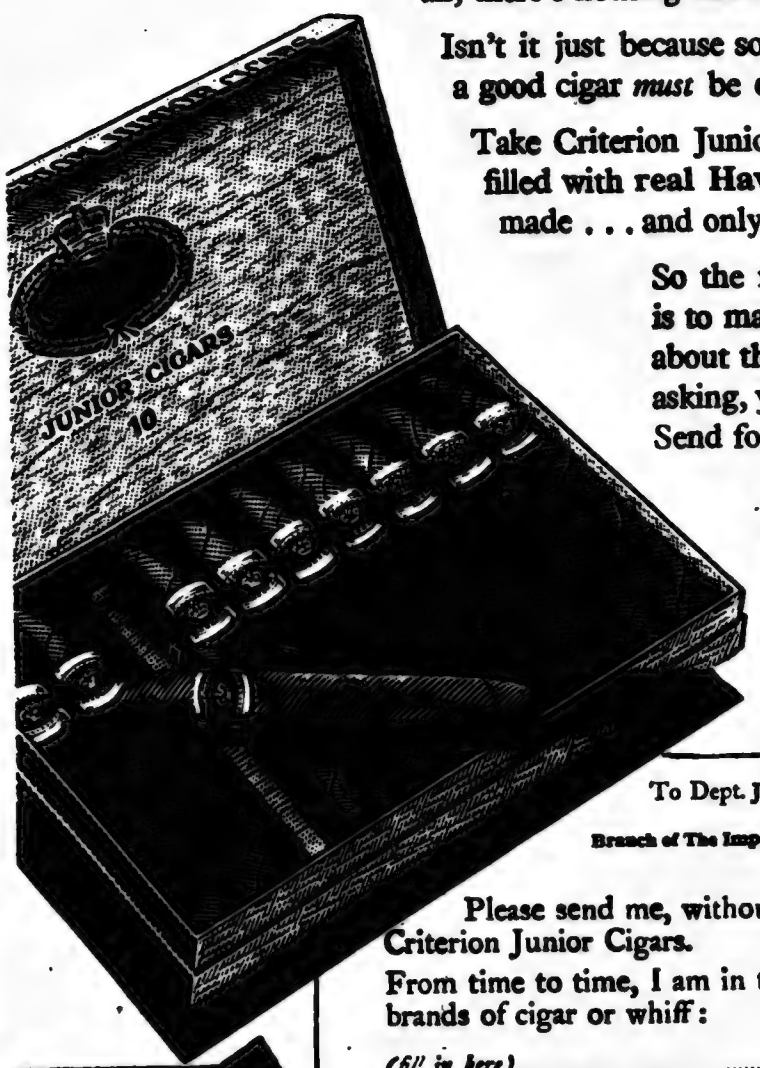

Why don't more smokers take to cigars? After all, there's nothing more satisfying to smoke.

Isn't it just because so many smokers seem to imagine that a good cigar *must* be expensive? This is a great mistake.

Take Criterion Juniors. They're good cigars. They're filled with real Havana tobacco. They're beautifully made . . . and only 3d. each!

So the main purpose of this announcement is to make it easy for you to satisfy yourself about them. In other words, merely for the asking, you can have a Criterion Junior to try. Send for one now!

When you've enjoyed your sample cigar, you'll probably want to smoke them regularly. They're sold in cartons of 4 (1/-), boxes of 10 (2/6), and in larger boxes.

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C66

Cave of Phantoms

I swear I saw an evil white face with yellow slit eyes

Reader's Story by E. P. Bird,
Westlands, Monksgate, near Horsham

● **Earn £5 5s. by letting us publish your real-life adventure, preferably one that happened in Britain. Length should not exceed 1,200 words, and a stamped addressed envelope must be sent.**

ELSIE and I had come to the last day of our honeymoon in the romantic Hebridean Islands, and now we were returning to our new home.

As luck would have it, old Donald Maclean, in whose boat we had made several excursions, offered to take us across to the mainland.

It was a brilliant morning, with scarcely a ripple on the usually restless Minch, but, as Donald had an auxiliary engine, the calm did not worry us.

The sun shone on sable rocks and ugly reefs, and in the distance the hills rose green and purple. It was a wonderful setting.

Then the fog descended like a great white blanket. The sun became a big red ball and finally disappeared.

Donald slowed down the engine and began to look anxious.

His hand, Rory, a strange lad with dreamy grey eyes, lay in the bows watching for reefs.

As time passed it was clear we had lost our bearings, though no man knew these treacherous seas better than Donald.

Suddenly Rory shouted: "Skerries right ahead!" But his warning was too late.

The tide swept us on. There was a bump, a crunch of splintering planks, and we ran hard on to a rocky beach.

How badly the ketch was holed we did not know, but at least we were high and dry.

FOR a few moments the fog lifted to show us that we stood at the foot of gaunt cliffs, honeycombed with caves.

"It might have been worse," commented Donald ruefully, "but it's nae sae guid!"

Rory, who had landed, came running back. His eyes were wide with fear.

"Yon caves are Flannens!" he cried: "May the Lord help us Donal', forbye 'tis the hame of the Bhean Nimhir!"

"Whist, ye young fule!" snapped Donald, "Do ye want to scare folk? Haud your tongue, man!"

"And who is the Bhean Nimhir?" asked Elsie.

"She is an awfu' witch!" whimpered Rory, "Dinna enter those caves on peril of your lives!"

"What harm could she do to us?" I asked, smiling sceptically. I knew Rory was hopelessly superstitious like all the Western Islanders.

"She can suck the life oot of a man after crooning him to sleep, and she leaves but the littleness of a flee-bite in the hollow of his throat. My mither and my mither's mither have telt me of the men she has lured to death with her songs!"

"It's an old-wife's tale," sniffed Donald, "The Bhean Nimhir, they do tell, has a long white face, her yellow eyes slit doon like a cat's, and she sits on a rock and combs her long, green hair, while she croons devil's songs."

"All nonsense," I said.

"But very romantic!" exclaimed Elsie, "interesting to get a sight of the witch. Let's explore the cave, Dick."

Well, it was something to do while Donald and Rory tried to patch up the boat, and it would be warmer in the caves than on the windswept beach.

Taking one of the ketch's lanterns and our vacuum flask of hot tea, Elsie and I set out.

The cavern we entered was spacious, dwindling into misty obscurity. A rough ledge of flattish stones shelved up from the sandy floors.

On either side were great arcades, each leading to new worlds of mystery.

We must have penetrated more than a mile before we sat down, drank some tea and rested. Tired out, we slept.

Some hours later Elsie awoke me.

"Dick!" she sobbed: "The tide is creeping upon us!"

The water was lapping barely a foot below the ledge where we lay, cutting us off completely from Donald and the boat.

"Elsie," I said, and I tried to keep my voice calm. "Follow me. We shall be drowned here!"

We stumbled along the maze of galleries, our only hope to find a way out. Ghastly shadows seemed to wave us onwards.

THEN a sharp cry from Elsie. She had slipped and sprained her ankle. In agony, she pulled off her shoe

"Go on," she pleaded, "You *must* find a way out of here."

"But I can't leave you here in this darkness, darling."

"Please!" she persisted, "I am not afraid."

She was utterly exhausted, and in this part of the cave the air was dry and hot. It acted on her like a drug, and she soon fell asleep.

Taking up the lantern, I staggered on, the black, silent water keeping pace with me.

Then I rounded a bend and tripped over an obstruction. I looked down. It was a heaped-up mass of human bones!

Strangely enough, at the same moment, a strong gust of wind blew along the corridor, and with it came the note of a woman wailing.

I stood stupified and listened.

Every mood of wickedness seemed to be expressed in that moaning shriek.

By this time I was really scared. Was there truth in the Bhean Nimhir after all?

Suddenly another scream, louder and more piercing, reached my ears.

GREAT Heavens! Elsie!

I rushed back fearing the worst, but, to my relief, she was still there. She threw herself into my arms.

"Keep her away! Oh, keep her off! She's been combing her hair. I saw her. She was coming over to me when you arrived."

I tried to soothe her; telling her it was only a dream. Then I turned the lantern in the direction to which she pointed.

The light flickered and went out, for the oil was low, and I had forgotten to trim the wick.

But in that brief second I swear I saw an evil white face, with yellow slit eyes and long hair. The expression was horrible.

Desperately I shouted for help as I had never shouted before.

Again and again I yelled at the top of my voice. What was that?

In the distance I heard an answering shout. Or were the echoes mocking me?

No. It came nearer, and to my joy I heard Donald call.

A few minutes later the ship's dinghy was paddled up to our ledge. We were saved.

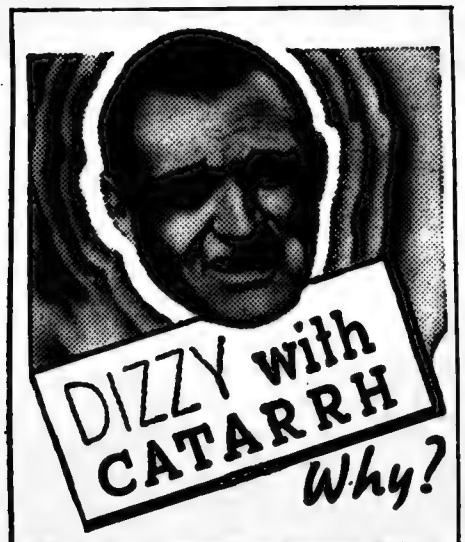
Donald had been seeking us for a long time, but in the labyrinth of arcades he had taken another route. If I had not shouted when I did we would never have been found.

RORY had kept muttering a Gaelic chant to keep off the witch, and he was convinced that it was to this we owed our salvation.

I told Donald about the weird wail I had heard, and he seemed to think it was caused by the hissing wind.

"Though, mind ye," he added, "mony a guid man's bones lie in these caves wi' no proper burial, and I wil'na say no bogles haunt them."

To this day, Elsie believes she saw the Bhean Nimhir. And I . . . Well, I shall never forget that ghastly face I saw in the last flicker of the lantern.



Why allow yourself to become "absolutely dizzy with catarrh"—you have then reached the danger-point. Many a dangerous illness has resulted from a neglected "simple cold."

It's dangerous to neglect CATARRH . . . It is spelling for trouble later . . . deafness, head noises, loss of smell—and worse.

End this continuous Catarrh with Potter's Catarrh Pastilles. They instantly melt the phlegm, clear head and throat, and act as a powerful antiseptic (vital when travelling in trains, tubes, trams, buses or where infection is present).

Buy a handy 1/3d. tin at any chemist, stores, or herbalists or 1/4½d. post free from makers.

POTTER & CLARKE LTD.
68Y, Artillery Lane, London, E.1
(Makers of Potter's Asthma Cure)

POTTER'S CATARRH PASTILLES

P.7

NURSES KNOW WHAT YOUR STOMACH NEEDS

One of the great concerns of the hospital nurse is to keep her patient free from stomach trouble. She knows that harsh remedies must be avoided. The delicate stomach is not in a condition to stand drastic treatment, yet something must be done to give relief and prevent poisonous accumulation.

Fortunately, she knows just the remedy your stomach needs, the safe and gentle way to put things right. The perfectly balanced alkalies in Maclean Brand Stomach Powder are used and recommended by the medical and nursing profession as the most reliable corrective for stomach disorders. It brings quick and effective relief from the pains of indigestion. Inflammation is soothed, excess acid is neutralised and poison-spreading, undigested food is gently dispersed. Best of all, Maclean Brand Stomach Powder helps your stomach to recover its own natural digestive action. You enjoy your food more than ever, and all your stomach discomfort is soon completely forgotten.

Be sure you get MACLEAN BRAND Stomach Powder which is only genuine with the signature "ALEX. C. MACLEAN" on bottle and carton. Never sold loose, but only in 1/3, 2/- and 5/- bottles, Powder or Tablets. Also handy 9d. tins of Tablets.

FIBROSITIS

The danger—and the remedy

Fibrositis, or Rheumatic inflammation of the tissues, has a danger all its own.

The painful affection may occur in any structure of the body. It is often brought on by draughts, cold, chills, and even by hard muscular exertion. And because it comes easily, people make the mistake of thinking that it goes easily. So it does, sometimes—but not for long.

There is no form of Rheumatism more apt to return. Every attack leaves you more liable to the next until your condition becomes chronic, with hard growths (or "nodules") in the tissues.

The urgent need for anybody subject to Fibrositis is to get the inflammation-causing acid out of the system—and keep it out. A safe and simple way is to take a teaspoonful of Fynnon Salt in a tumblerful of water (preferably warm water) every morning.

Fynnon is a blend of the acid-dissolving mineral elements, Sodium, Potassium and Lithium, found in the famous Spa Waters. Its "Salts of the Earth" rinse away the pain-causing acid crystals, tone liver and kidneys, and cleanse the bloodstream of toxins and poisons. A daily glassful is a real assurance of supple, all-round health.

Large tins of Fynnon Salt, 1/3 from all chemists.

How I Made This AMAZING CHANGE In 7 Days

Miss Drouet made this amazing change in her appearance in 7 days. Read below her personal letter in which she explains exactly how she did it and how any woman can do the same.

"I can hardly believe it myself," writes Miss Drouet, "when I look at the photographs I had taken 7 and 10 days ago. I had lines and wrinkles on my forehead and around my eyes and mouth. My complexion was dull and sallow. To-day my smooth, clear, unlined skin is the admiration and the envy of all my friends. I tell them all to use Tokalon Skinfoods — the Rose at night, the White during the day. Several of them laughed until they tried it themselves. After seeing the amazing results they are just as thrilled as I am."

Tokalon Rose Skinfood contains Biocel — the amazing vital youth element discovered by a famous Vienna University Professor. Apply Tokalon Rose Skinfood at night — it nourishes and beautifies while you sleep. Skin becomes firm and free from wrinkles. During the day use Crème Tokalon White Colour to make skin fresh and clear, to dissolve away blackheads and enlarged pores.

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

Any woman who follows this simple 3-minute-a-day treatment can get a smooth girlish skin and fresh lovely complexion. Results have been so amazing in thousands of cases that we give this unconditional money back guarantee. Get a tube or jar of both Tokalon Skinfoods to-day. Use them as directed for 10 days. If you are not delighted with the remarkably successful results, return the package to us even if more than half used, and we will refund your money in full.

GOSH, MISS STANWYCK THINK A SCREEN STAR OF JOY BEING SO ADMIRED BY EVERYONE
I SHOULD WOULD DIE
A SCREEN STAR'S MUCH MORE LIKELY TO DIE OF HARD WORK, MY DEAR!
YES, I SUPPOSE SO, BUT THEN IT MUST BE THRILLING TO BE SO ADMIRED ALL THE TIME
WELL, EVEN BEING ADMIRED TAKES EFFORT. YOU HAVE TO WATCH YOUR FIGURE, YOUR HAIR, YOUR SKIN
OH, DO GIVE ME A TIP ABOUT KEEPING SKIN NICE! MINE HASN'T BEEN SO GOOD LATELY
MAYBE YOU'RE GETTING COSMETIC SKIN BECAUSE YOU DON'T REMOVE COSMETICS THOROUGHLY. SCREEN STARS USE LUX TOILET SOAP BECAUSE IT HAS SUCH PENETRATING LATHER
LUX TOILET SOAP

HOLLYWOOD'S loveliest stars use Lux Toilet Soap because it guards against Cosmetic Skin — the dullness and tiny blemishes that come when pores are clogged. Its penetrating lather removes stale rouge and powder, dust and dirt *thoroughly*. To keep *your* skin smooth—appealing—use Lux Toilet Soap regularly—before you put on fresh make-up—ALWAYS before you go to bed.

A *LEVER* PRODUCT

TL 990-364-65

9 out of 10 Film Stars use Lux Toilet Soap

Accept this FREE SAMPLE of a Real CIGAR!

TO introduce CRITERION JUNIORS, a full-size free sample is offered to every reader of "John Bull" who fills in the coupon on page 33. Take advantage of this unique offer to test free and without obligation a most satisfying smoke—a real cigar, beautifully made, filled with real Havana tobacco.

SEIZE THIS SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY NOW—Before it's too late! See page 33.

Merely for the asking you can have a CRITERION JUNIOR to try, and if you enjoy this free sample cigar, you can get them regularly at any tobacconist, price 3d. each, in cartons of 4 (1/-), boxes of 10 (2/6), and in larger boxes.

Hurry, you can't be too quick to fill in the coupon on page 33 to make sure of receiving, without obligation, your free sample. All you have to do is to fill in your name and address—write clearly—and post to DEPT. A, MESSRS. LAMBERT & BUTLER, Branch of the Imperial Tobacco Co. (of Gt. Britain and Ireland), Ltd., DRURY LANE, LONDON, W.C.2.

. . . could draw the Queen Mary along

The energy wasted by a political candidate shaking hands would, if stored, enable him to draw the Queen Mary along! Energy-saving is an important scientific problem. Read all about it in "ARMCHAIR SCIENCE," the magazine that explains scientific marvels with a fascinating clearness. Read also: Modern Warfare is Ancient History; Why Women can never beat men at Work; Secrets of the Jungle; A.R.P. for Ants; Registering Hits in Naval Warfare at 20 miles. Get a copy from your newsagent or send 6d. in stamps to: "Armchair Science," 67, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

ARMCHAIR SCIENCE — 6d.

33 ARTICLES AND FEATURES, 100 PAGES 72 PICTURES.

SECCOTINE

THE DOUBLE STRENGTH ADHESIVE

WILL MEND IT

quickly, permanently, inexpensively. Whether it's wood, pottery, metal, glass, leather, or whatever it is. And things mended with Seccotine stay mended. In tubes everywhere, 4½d., 6d., and 9d.

Sole Proprietors: M'Caw, Stevenson & Orr, Ltd., Belfast.

£35 in Cash Prizes FREE! For Best Last Line to Limerick on page 27.

THE proprietors of "DIPLOMA" CHEESE offer a first prize of £15 Cash and numerous other cash prizes for the best last line to Limerick in their announcement on page 27. Turn to it now—read the simple conditions, then send in your entry at once. Note closing date, Friday, December 16, 1938. Address your entries: Competition (Dept. 12), Wilts United Dairies, Ltd., Trowbridge, Wilts.

It's Cheaper to Let You Die!

ARMY doctors are anxious.

The other day, at the Royal Army Medical College, Millbank, London, they heard a remarkable address.

The lecturer began with an apology for the statement he was going to make. It would, he said, shock every doctor who cherished the ethics of his profession and valued the oath which all medical men must take.

Soon military doctors would have to recognise the terrible fact that, in a modern war, there might be certain classes of wounded whom it would be uneconomic to treat. Bluntly, it would be cheaper to let them die!

Already this problem had arisen in Spain where, although plenty of doctors and nurses were available, there was not money to care for men whose wounds required long treatment.

So surgeons were forced to concentrate on fractures and simple wounds which could be cured quickly and the man sent back into the line, or at least to the base for light duties.

Modern weapons were becoming more and more deadly. But were the Army Medical Services getting a sufficient share of the millions spent on rearmament to deal with the vast numbers of casualties which could be expected in a future war?

Every doctor listening to the lecturer's cautious words realised their sombre implication. His warning is a warning to all of us, and it must be heeded.

If we continue to heap up weapons, and leave the means of counteracting their destruction to be rendered almost valueless for lack of money, we shall be fostering a folly that might cost thousands of lives and shame us for all time.

The Army Medical Services are more neglected than any other branch of our three forces.

Their grant is last on the list in the annual Army Estimates. Even the educational services, which keep Sandhurst and Woolwich for "gentlemen cadets" and send Tommies to school again, have more money to spend than our doctors in khaki.

Yet, to be provided with adequate medical treatment in the field is surely of more importance to a soldier than a school certificate.

In 1935 the Army Medical Services were voted £1,010,397. Warlike stores (weapons and ammunition) got £5,203,194. In 1938 the Medical Services were still getting only £1,105,000, while warlike stores were voted £41,242,000.

So expenditure on arms is increased by £36,000,000; but the work of healing is left to struggle along with an extra grant of less than £100,000.

Such disproportion as exists between these two figures is dangerous, and must alarm every sane man and woman.

We can but guess how this difference has arisen.

PERHAPS in the annual scramble which takes place for a share in the Estimates money, the Medical Services cannot shove as hard as the others. Perhaps the doctors cannot bawl as loudly as the generals.

But, whatever the reasons, we warn Mr. Hore-Belisha that unless the Medical Services are given their rightful share of the taxpayers' money, he will face a storm which will eclipse even the indignation aroused by the recent "gun scandals."

For, despite the stupid meanness which has been shown to the Medical Services, they have built up a spectacular record of keenness and efficiency.

In the laboratories in Millbank four great scourges of war—lockjaw, gas gangrene, trench fever, and typhus—have been conquered.

The peril of lockjaw will be eliminated by the end of the year, when every officer and man in the British Army will be inoculated with a new serum, tetanus toxoid, which, it is claimed, gives immunity for life.

Typhus, once the greatest menace to armies operating in semi-tropical conditions, has been cut down to a fractional percentage in the past ten years, and fatalities are practically nil.

METHODS have also been discovered for storing blood for transfusions.

A few months ago it was news that Mr. Hore-Belisha had called in a civilian expert, Sir Isidore Salmon, chairman of Lyons, to advise on catering and cooking for the Army.

But several years ago the Army Medical Services overhauled themselves by appointing a "brains trust" of five separate Committees to advise the higher organisation.

These Committees have the pick of Harley Street's skill, and include such men as Viscount Dawson of Penn, Sir Alfred Webb-Johnson, Professor Cathcart, of Glasgow University, and Sir Harold Gillies, the famous plastic surgeon.

Every item of administration has been cleaned up long ago, and with none of the publicity and fuss which has attended other Army changes.

The old type of M.O., whose stock treatments were "light duty" or "medicine and duty," has disappeared. The modern M.O. must keep himself more up to date than many doctors in civilian practice, and he is encouraged to specialise.

YET, while making all this progress, the Army Medical Services contrive to pay officers and men, buy stores, mechanise its equipment throughout, and run eight military hospitals and a chain of research laboratories for the health and protection of the soldier, on an annual dole of little more than £1,000,000!

Certainly it is an example to the spending of other departments. But the sum is criminally small. It means that men may perish, not because their wounds are fatal, but because we cannot afford to heal them.

The annual share-out of the money allotted to the Forces is now taking place.

We hope that when, in a few weeks' time, the Votes come up for sanction in the House of Commons, every M.P. will make it his duty to see that Medical Services are given a grant worthy of their work.

A million or two taken off "warlike stores" and handed to the doctors would do more for the all-round efficiency of our Defence machine than the guns and 'planes which that money would buy.

They're learning first aid, but will they have to let many of their wounded comrades die because of economy?

Germolene Brand ASEPTIC OINTMENT

SKIN HEALING CRUSADE!

More Great Victories!

LEG ULCER HEALED

Dear Sirs,—I suffered for 17 years with a large ulcer on my right leg. I decided to try Germolene and I am thankful to say I am completely cured. My leg is quite healthy.
Mrs. A. D., Leicester.

DISFIGURATION ENDED!

Dear Sirs,—For some time past I have been suffering from Cellulitis of the face. I lost nights of sleep and was advised to see a specialist. A friend suggested I should try Germolene. My cure was rapid. After a few applications of Germolene all the irritation ceased.
J. D., Herts.

THE WORLD'S GREATEST HEALER FOR ABSCESSES BAD LEGS BURNS SORES BOILS ECZEMA

At the first touch of Germolene smarting, itching, burning and pain is stopped! Swellings reduce, blemishes are banished! Germolene is the World's Quickest Healer—even painful Ulcers cannot withstand its healing power! Get your tin TO-DAY!

SOLD EVERYWHERE 6d., 1/3, 3/- & 12/- Per Tin

Race with "Silver Ring"

Welcome Change

THOUGH we shall be sighing for the "Flat" long before March 20, it must be admitted that the change-over at the end of November is welcome.

Apart altogether from the difference in the sport as a spectacle, there is marked contrast in the "atmosphere" at meetings under National Hunt rules compared with those on the Flat.

The owner or trainer of a 'chaser doesn't whisper to you, out of the side of his mouth, that he thinks his horse has a chance. He is much more likely to slap you on the back and tell you—and everyone within 500 yards—that "you must have your pound on mine in this race, old boy!"

I never can confess that I've followed other advice and backed the second. Instead, I add to my liabilities by the purchase of a bottle, and discuss the possibilities of the owner winning the Grand National with a nag which I really wish had never been foaled!

But it's a fine game is 'chasing, and the people connected with it are just tip-top.

"SILVER RING'S" CODE

The Code covers racing from Thursday, December 8, to Wednesday, December 14.

B A K X U Z R 98 N 96 G E D V H J
I 95 S O Y 97 L W T F 94 M P Q C 93

In place of the letters or figures advertised in the *Sporting Life* and *Daily Herald*, read those above or below, as the case may be. Example: DLBHSMN would read PRICKET.

Where a double letter occurs in a name the figure 2 is substituted. KTX297M would read SNOOZE.

GRAVES Beats the World For Quality & Value

Every Lady should write today for Graves Display of latest Fashions showing the newest ideas in Ladies' Wear, all offered at the keenest prices, on the fairest of Easy Terms

2/6 Monthly

Carnarvon

An extremely attractive close weave plain Velour is the material chosen for this handsome Winter Coat which is beautifully trimmed in bold rever style with rich and silky American Opossum fur. The garment is designed with three-seam panel back, three-button front, stand-up collar tastefully trimmed with machine stitching, together with a machine stitched all-round belt with ornoid slide. Carefully lined throughout with plain Art. Silk to tone. Shades: Rust, Bottle, Nigger, and Navy. Sizes: 32 W. to 44 (Busts: 32 to 38in.) Length: 46 to 50in. 22/6
Terms: 2/6 monthly

PATTERNS POST FREE

Write for full range of cloth Patterns of Newest Models; Coats, Costumes, Frocks, Underwear, &c., in latest styles. Ask for patterns of any garment you require with self-measurement Form & full particulars Sent Free per return. Styles & Patterns are also available of Young Ladies', Maids' & Girls' Fashions, and we offer excellent value in Footwear, Furs, and Mantles' Clothing, etc.

NO CHARGE FOR EASY PAYMENTS

J. G. GRAVES LTD SHEFFIELD

Be prepared against winter ailments

by taking PHOSFERINE

A course of PHOSFERINE *now* will strengthen you to withstand Winter ailments. For months to come there will be little revitalising sunshine. For ninety-nine out of a hundred people this means nervous strain and a consequent debility which lays them open to all the ills associated with our inclement weather. Without seasonal precautions, nerve exhaustion is likely to occur.

The wise precaution is to take PHOSFERINE—that unrivalled tonic which, because its first effect is to re-invigorate the nervous system, always improves your general fitness and assures the fullest enjoyment of all your faculties.

Keep well in mind the fact that every ingredient in PHOSFERINE is not only openly published—as in this advertisement—but is a proven tonic of which all doctors approve.

It is the skilful combination of these specifics which makes PHOSFERINE the outstanding tonic of our time.
Don't put off your precautionary treatment.
Get a bottle to-day.

Quinine Sulphate	0.455
Cinchonine Sulphate	0.028
Cinchonidine Sulphate	0.028
Quinidine Sulphate	0.028
Acid Glycerophosphoric	0.056
Acid Phosphoric	8.281

from all Chemists

PHOSFERINE

BRAND TONIC

The Greatest of all Tonics

for DEPRESSION HEADACHE INDIGESTION
for BRAIN-FAG NEURALGIA SLEEPLESSNESS
for INFLUENZA RHEUMATISM SCIATICA
for ANAEMIA DEBILITY NEURASTHENIA

Tablets or Liquid, 1/3, 3/- and 5/-
The 3/- size is nearly four times the 1/3 size; you save almost 2/-
A 6d. trial size of PHOSFERINE TABLETS is now obtainable—(Not available in Eire)
WARNING: THE PUBLIC IS WARNED AGAINST PURCHASING WORTHLESS IMITATIONS
C.F.H.

...but found Bondman the coolest smoke of all

When you think how many hours of man's life are spent with his pipe on, you realise that Bondman's cool, restful smoking is an important "contribution to world peace."

LLOYDS'

Bondman

TOBACCO

10D PER OZ. · EMPIRE BLEND
11½D PER OZ. · RICH RUDDY VIRGINIA

The Coolest Smoke of all!

Richard Lloyd & Sons (Branch of Cope Bros. & Co., Ltd.), Bondman Corner, Clerkenwell Road, E.C.1

ASHAMED

to be seen because of SKIN DISEASE

Why go about disfigured with eczema, impetigo, rashes, dermatitis or pimples on the face, hands or arms? In D.D.D. Brand Prescription you have a remedy that will conquer the most serious case of skin trouble quickly and permanently. Read the report given here:

A grateful patient from Beccles writes: "I had eczema for upwards of 25 years. Since using D.D.D. Prescription I have had no further trouble. I would advise all sufferers from skin disease to give D.D.D. Prescription a fair trial."

D.D.D. Prescription penetrates right into the skin and ends the cause of your trouble. No finer remedy for eczema, dermatitis, psoriasis, ulcers, spots, boils or dandruff. Get a bottle of D.D.D. Prescription for instant relief. Price 1/3 a bottle from Chemists everywhere.

FREE TRIAL OFFER.
A sample bottle of D.D.D. Prescription will be sent free on receipt of postcard (1d. stamp). Write to-day to D.D.D. Laboratories (Dept. M.N.10), Fleet Lane, London, E.C.4.

D D D PRESCRIPTION

STOP COUGHING

TAKE YADIL Persistent coughs are danger warnings and need immediate attention. Take YADIL for this famous garlic remedy will quickly relieve your cough and protect you from the germs which settle in throat or lungs. YADIL is a safe internal antiseptic taken like ordinary medicine, and has a long record of success in a multitude of cases of Coughs, Colds and Lung complaints. Perfectly safe, remarkably effective, YADIL is the greatest internal germ killer.

LIQUID **YADIL** TABLETS

Safe INTERNAL Antiseptic

1/3 and larger from Chemists or direct from:—
YADIL (1935) LTD., Dept. J.B., Springfield, Clapton, E.5.

A *Safe* Guide to *Furnishing*

Send for this FREE CATALOGUE

XMAS gifts are now becoming more practical and the business of choosing them is, therefore, considerably simplified. One such gift, which is a happy choice for both the donor and the person who receives it, is the Berkeley Superlax Easy Chair as offered on p. 31. It is made by H. J. Searle & Son, Ltd., of (Dept. J.B.) 70-76, Old Kent Road, London, whose reputation for quality is renowned, and can be secured for only 5/- down! Fill in the coupon for a Free Catalogue giving details of this chair, and other Berkeley Models, or write mentioning "John Bull."

CROSSWORD No. 134.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

ON pages 40 and 41 is presented the 134th of JOHN BULL'S entertaining Crossword Puzzles; you are invited to exercise your skill and knowledge by completing it with the guidance of the Clues provided.

Aptness and accuracy of Answers in relation to the Clues form the standard of excellence by which entries will be judged, and all decisions will be based on the Answers of Competitors. This judging will be carried out under the supervision of an Adjudication Committee, consisting of the following:—The Editor of JOHN BULL and Doctor C. E. M. Joad, M.A., D.Lit.

Each entry received will be carefully considered and the First Prize-winner will be the competitor who on one Entry Form has completed the Puzzle and has given what, in the opinion of the Adjudication Committee, is the best set of Answers to the Clues provided. And this set of Answers will constitute the winning Puzzle Square.

If at any point in the Puzzle where a choice of words exists the Adjudication Committee decides that no one word submitted can be preferred on the test of aptness and accuracy, then competitors there using words of equal merit as answers will be regarded as having tied at these points, which will be duly indicated when result and winning Puzzle Square appear in JOHN BULL, published Thursday, December 29, 1938. The Rules which decided the Committee's Award will be published in JOHN BULL'S free weekly "Crossword Gazette," obtainable by endorsing with entry the Reservation Coupon on page 41. The Second Prize will be awarded to the competitor whose entry is next in order of merit. In the event of a tie or ties, the lump sum of £3,000 will be equally divided; but more than one cash prize and one other prize allowed to any one entrant.

Acceptance of the findings of the Adjudication Committee in regard to the most meritorious entries and of the Editor of JOHN BULL in all other matters is a condition on which entries are accepted and is legally binding on all entrants for this Crossword Competition.

Serious OPERATION ordered for PILES

TORTURED for years with painful piles, Mrs. G. could get no relief. "I attended —— Hospital," she writes, "and then St. —— Hospital for operation, but I suffered agonies after. Doctor wanted me to have yet another operation but I objected; I tried 'Nemolin' . . . it was the *only* thing to give me relief. I've tried ointments from Hospital, but nothing relieves like 'Nemolin.'"

Why go on suffering the torture of itching or bleeding piles? All chemists sell 'Nemolin' Ointment at 3/- a tube—relief is guaranteed or money refunded.

SPECIAL O.S. OFFER

THIS SUPERB GOWN MADE TO MEASURE

21/-

EASILY WORTH DOUBLE

SEE ONE ON APPROVAL FOR TWO SHILLINGS DEPOSIT

Made in COURTAULD'S ART. SILK MARO-CAIN that drapes like expensive silk. And it's so SLIMMING! Long, graceful skirt lines, and a bodice set off by cascade lapels and gay revers of pleated frilling over a rayon lace and art. silk vest. The neck is distinguished by a diamante brooch.

Send off your Postal Order for 2/- Deposit (plus 6d. postage) with the Coupon below, and after a few days for making, you will receive this dress made specially to your measurements. If you are not absolutely satisfied return the garment, and your Deposit is refunded at once. Otherwise pay the balance either in one sum or in monthly instalments of 3/6 whichever you prefer. THERE IS NO EXTRA CHARGE FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF EASY TERMS. Colours: Navy, Black, Nigger, Bottle, Lido, Wine. All attractive shades. Sizes up to 56" Hips and 52" lengths. *A real bargain beautifully cut that normally would cost you at least twice as much.*

SUPERB QUALITY

PROMPT SERVICE

STRICT PRIVACY

SATISFACTION

COUPON

Please send me Gown D.185 on approval.

Colour

Bust Hips Length

I enclose crossed || Postal Order for 2/6 (2/- Deposit and 6d. postage) with full name (*Mrs. or Miss*) and address. (*Overseas full cash*). J. Bull 81/10/38

AMBROSE WILSON LTD

239 Ambrose House, 69 Vauxhall Bridge Rd., London, S.W.1

STOMACH PAINS

ARE DANGER SIGNALS

When your digestive organs are out of order, the simplest food often causes distress. Heartburn, acidity, flatulence torment you; worse still, your food doesn't nourish you and so you become an easy prey to illness. It stands to reason you cannot be strong and healthy unless your digestive organs—stomach, liver and bowels—are working properly.

Mother Seigels Brand Digestive Syrup combines in concentrated form the medicinal virtues of more than ten different herbs, roots and barks which experience has shown have the power of restoring tone, efficiency and regularity to the digestive organs as no single drug or combination of drugs can do. The action of Mother Seigels is gentle, not drastic; it builds up, little by little, day by day, Nature's way, the only true way. All chemists have it at 1/3 and 3/-.

Revitalise your KIDNEYS

and you'll feel young—look young.

Nothing ages man or woman more than aches caused through bad kidney action. This makes you suffer from Getting up Nights, Burning, Rubbing Passages, Nerves, Dizziness, Rheumatism, Backache, Leg Pains, Circles under Eyes, Swollen Ankles, Loss of Appetite, Energy, etc., because kidneys which should filter blood fail to throw off acids and poisons, now creeping to joints and muscles. In 24 hours Cystex kills kidney germs, strengthens kidneys and expels acids and poisons. Get Cystex from Boots, Timothy Whites and Taylors or any Chemist, 1/3, 3/- and 6/- on Guarantee to put you right or money back. Act now! The Guarantee protects you.

Cystex

For Kidneys & Bladder

Coupon Wreckers

Pools Parliament by "Poolex"

Pools fans, this is your page—say what you like, ask what you want to know about your winter hobby. If you have a problem to be solved or an opinion to express concerning football pools, write to "Poolex," Pools Parliament, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

HERE'S a new idea in pools analysis.

It arises from researches which I was prompted to make as a result of a letter sent to me by a Manchester reader.

In short, the reader asks me: "Why do some teams appear on the penny pools list week after week. What is there to be learned from a study of those particular teams?"

The first question is easy.

Penny pool lists are made up of several types of matches, but mainly from games in which a weak or unreliable home team is opposed to a strong away team.

Added to these are a few local Derbies and some "bogy" games. But the first type is the most numerous.

It follows, then, that the teams which regularly appear on the penny lists when they are playing at home are the teams with poor home records.

The second question called for research.

I began by making a list of the home teams which have appeared on the popular penny pools lists this season.

To my surprise, I found that, with the exception of Barnsley and Rangers, every team in the five leagues has made at least one appearance.

Some have appeared once only; others more often; and 18, I found, could be classed as penny pool regulars.

Devoting my attention to these, I tried various forms of analysis without much success, until I hit on the idea of a "reliability trial."

I carried this out by comparing the actual results of their penny pool games with the results expected by the experts, and from this I was able to classify the teams according to the extent to which results and expert opinions had agreed.

Some teams, I found, had obligingly won, lost or drawn much as they were expected to do.

Others have been less consistent.

And six of them, I found, are real "coupon wreckers," and who have confounded the experts nearly every time.

There seem to be definite possibilities in this "reliability trial" idea, and I shall pursue it farther.

For the present, however, here are the results of my researches to date, together with some suggestions for marking your coupon, based on this idea:

GROUP 1 (Reliable penny pool teams): Carlisle, Grimsby, Notts Forest, Torquay and Walsall. Mark these as two-way forecasts, using the two forecasts most popular with the experts.

GROUP 2 (Less reliable teams): Ayr, Brentford, Hartlepools, Ipswich, Manchester United, Raith Rovers and Rochdale. As far as possible, cover these with a full 1-x-2 permutation when they appear on your penny pool list.

GROUP 3 ("The coupon wreckers"): Accrington, Albion Rovers, Birmingham, Clapton Orient, Leicester City and Swansea. These teams have gone so much against form, that I advise two-way forecasts, *leaving out* the result most expected by the experts.

Cup-Tie Figures

In the early rounds of the Cup there are a number of matches between teams from the two sections of the Third Division. Are these sections reckoned to be about equal in strength, or which is the stronger?—J. S., London, S.W.17.

As far as Cup-ties are concerned, the Southern Section of the Third Division has shown a slight superiority over their Northern rivals. In the last four seasons there have been 13 ties with the Southern team at home, and the results have been 7 home wins, 4 draws and 2 away wins. With Northerners as hosts, figures are: 5 home wins, 3 draws, 6 away wins.

Be Consistent

May I offer a word of advice to those punters who use a system for selecting the teams they are going to back. Always stick to your system selections, even if the general opinion points to a different result. I have learnt this from bitter experience. Working on the aways pool, I have several times rejected a team indicated by my system, just because most forecasters went for a home win. On two occasions I missed a good dividend by doing this.—B. J. B., Enfield.

I agree. It is most important to give your system a fair chance. A reader writes this week to tell me that he is using a system based on an idea in Pools Parliament, and says: "I have had two wins already, and the point is that I should not have dreamed of entering the lines which won, but the system indicated them *and they had to go in.*"

Penny Pool Plan

In Pools Parliament recently, T. W., Bognor Regis, voiced his dislike of bankers in penny pools, and suggested working from a basic line, varying each subsequent line by from 3 to 5 alterations.

I have developed this idea myself, and the following suggestions are based on the idea that the average punter will get about half his first choices correct. Here are the markings for a 12-match pool.

In this table 1 stands for your first choice, 2 for second choice, and 3 for third choice.

1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	3	3	3
1	2	2	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	3	1	3	3	1	1	2
2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	3	1	3	1	3	1	2	1	2	1
2	2	1	2	1	1	3	3	1	3	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	1
1	1	1	3	3	3	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	2	2
1	3	3	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	3
3	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	3	1	3	1
2	2	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	3	3	1	3	1	1
1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	3	3	3	1	1	1	2	2	2
1	2	2	1	1	3	1	3	3	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	2
2	1	3	1	3	1	3	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1
3	3	1	3	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	1	2	1

T. D., Sunderland, who receives 10s. 6d. for his useful contribution.

For an outlay of 1s. 6d., this table provides an easily-made entry for punters who do not fancy using bankers. If you want to use the Graded Guide in conjunction with this, put the Column A forecast in place of the 1's in the table above, Column B forecasts in place of the 2's above, and the third possible result in place of the 3's.

How Many Winners?

If I enter the 81 lines which cover four matches for every possible combination of results, I know that I must get one correct line. Therefore, if (a big "if") I get eight bankers right I must win the first dividend, but shall I win any other dividends as well?—B. L., Reading.

If all your bankers are correct you will win one first, eight second and 24 third dividends. With seven bankers correct you would have one second and eight third dividends, and six correct bankers would yield one third dividend.

Small investors in the pools should study the "Sporting Life Weekly" every Saturday for the special penny entries designed by "Poolex." This is one of many useful features included in the "Weekly's" comprehensive pools service.

She's Cashed 199 Cheques from "John Bull"

HERE you see Miss E. M. Price, Reeth, near Richmond, Yorks, who secured a JOHN BULL Crossword Life Pension of £2 Weekly in February, 1935. Already her Saturday Pension cheques total 199—and they will continue for the rest of her life. Turn to the giant Crossword Offer on pages 40 and 41, for a coupon may well win *you* £2 Weekly for Life!

Graded Guide and Pools Chart

by Poolex (copyright)

BELOW are the games to be played on Saturday, December 10.

Likely home winners, on form, are at the top of the list, next come the more evenly matched teams, and at the end are likely away winners.

As an additional guide, column A shows whether the home team (1) or the away team (2) has the advantage on recent form. Column B gives the next-best forecast as an alternative, whilst column C gives a warning asterisk (*) where results in past years suggest form may be upset.

In pools where a choice is given, avoid games marked *; cover fully, if possible (1—x—2), in pools where each match has to be forecast.

December 10, 1938.	A	B	C
1 Partick v. Arbroath	1	x	
2 Norwich v. Tranmere	1	x	
3 Stockport v. Walthamstow	1	x	
4 Oldham v. Wrexham	1	x	.
5 Stoke v. Portsmouth	1	2	.
6 Lincoln v. Bromley	1	x	
7 Leeds v. Sunderland	1	2	
8 Aberdeen v. Albion R.	1	2	
9 Birmingham v. Brentford	1	x	
10 Southport v. Swindon	1	x	
11 Newcastle v. Bury	1	x	
12 W.B.A. v. West Ham	1	x	.
13 Chelsea v. Huddersfield	1	2	
14 Bolton v. Aston Villa	1	2	
15 Port Vale v. Southend	1	x	.
16 Exeter v. Northampton	1	x	
17 Alloa v. Montrose	1	2	
18 Morton v. Leith	1	x	
19 Forfar v. Dundee	1	x	.
20 Coventry v. Fulham	1	2	
21 Airdrie v. E. Stirling	1	2	
22 Tottenham v. Millwall	1	2	
23 St. Bernards v. E. Fife	1	x	
24 Hibernian v. Third Lanark	1	x	
25 Middlesbrough v. Blackpool	1	2	
26 Ipswich v. Torquay	1	2	
27 Liverpool v. Grimsby	1	2	
28 Preston v. Everton	1	2	.
29 Queen's Park v. Kilmarnock	1	x	
30 Charlton v. Wolves	1	2	
31 Leicester v. Derby	1	x	
32 Dunfermline v. Stenhouse	1	2	
33 St. Mirren v. Ayr	1	2	
34 Dundee U. v. Dumbarton	1	2	
35 King's Park v. Cowdenbeath	1	x	
36 Luton v. Chesterfield	1	x	
37 Sheffield U. v. Bradford	1	x	
38 Chester v. Hull	2	1	
39 Walsall v. Clapton O.	2	x	
40 Plymouth v. Swansea	2	1	
41 Accrington v. Rochdale	2	1	
42 Chelmsford v. Darlington	2	x	
43 Scunthorpe v. Watford	2	x	
44 Cardiff v. Crewe	2	1	
45 Folkestone v. Yeovil	2	x	
46 Notts Forest v. Sheffield W.	2	x	
47 Edinburgh C. v. Brechin	2	x	
48 Runcorn v. Aldershot	2	x	
49 Burnley v. Manchester C.	2	1	
50 Halifax v. Mansfield	2	x	
51 Queen of S. v. Raith R.	2	x	
52 Manchester U. v. Arsenal	2	x	
53 Southampton v. Blackburn	2	1	
54 Hartlepools v. Q.P.R.	2	x	
55 Bristol R. v. Bournemouth	2	1	
56 Falkirk v. Motherwell	2	x	
57 St. Johnstone v. Celtic	2	x	
58 Horden v. Reading or Newport	2	x	
59 Clyde v. Hearts	2	x	
60 Gainsboro v. Doncaster	2	1	
61 Hamilton v. Rangers	2	x	

Many men would welcome this

FLAKE-MIXTURE OR SHAG

Rich and full flavoured, "Digger" is immensely popular amongst those who enjoy a good full-bodied smoke. So if your man's tastes lie this way, he'll welcome a tin of "Digger" for Christmas. The Empire Tobacco with the largest sale in the country.

1/4 2 OZ. TIN 2/8 4 OZ. TIN

PLAYER'S
DIGGER
TOBACCOS

P.D.62

Severe Nervous breakdown

Now back to normal—thanks to

IRON 'JELLOIDS'

"*Dear Sirs,* *October 14th, 1938.*

I feel I must write and tell you what great benefit I have derived from your Iron 'Jelloids.'

Two years ago I had a severe nervous breakdown and had given up all hope of ever being able to carry on with my profession or going for long walks as I had been used to, but thanks to your wonderful Iron 'Jelloids,' I am now back to normal and really 'feeling my feet' again.

I shall always keep a box by me and recommend them to all I know who are similarly affected."

(*Miss*) ——, *L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., etc.*

The fact that IRON 'JELLOIDS' have restored this lady to health proves that the cause of her nervous trouble was IRON STARVATION. So many women are IRON-STARVED *but do not know it.* If *you* are nervy, depressed, run-down, see what a course of IRON 'JELLOIDS' will do for *you.* Doctors say that all women should take a course of IRON 'JELLOIDS' every now and then, for IRON STARVATION is *Woman's Worst Enemy.*

IRON 'JELLOIDS' will recharge your whole system with vitalizing iron, make your blood rich and red, fill you with energy and vitality, sharpen your appetite and improve your digestion, bring colour to your cheeks and lustre to your hair, and build up an IRON resistance against winter ills and chills. *Start taking IRON 'JELLOIDS' with your next meal.* The 1/3 size lasts 10 days, the 3/- size 36 days. Of all chemists and stores.

Iron Jelloids

For WOMEN: No. 2 For MEN: No. 2A (containing quinine) For CHILDREN: No. 1

fortify you with IRON-strength to overcome Weakness—Exhausted Nerves—Lack of Energy—Liability to Colds—Breathlessness—Palpitation—Poor Appetite Weak Digestion—Headaches—Pallor Falling Hair—Pimples—Brittle Nails

The word 'Jelloids' is registered. No proprietary right is claimed in the method of manufacture.

COUPON for FREE BOOK

To The Iron Jelloid Co., Ltd., (Dept. J64) Watford, Herts.

Please send me your new free booklet "IRON STARVATION, The Thief of Health and Strength." J.B. 10.12.38

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Post unsealed under ½d. stamp. Use BLOCK letters.

HELPLESS WITH RHEUMATISM

"I was helpless, so I thought I would give your tablets a trial; they (Uracc Brand Tablets) have done me the world of good; what wonderful tablets they are."—S.J.K., Didcot. Free sample from Newbery and Phillips, Ltd., 33m, Banner Street, London, E.C.1. From your chemist, 1/3 and 3/-.

RESTLESS NIGHTS

—now only a memory!

"Unable to rest with pains around my kidneys, urination so frequent as to cause great inconvenience. I started Bole's Gin Pills and the pains left my back and I felt quite restored and well again."—J.S.L. From chemists 1/3 and 3/- or post free from Newbery and Phillips, Ltd., 3T/33a, Banner St., London, E.C.1. Write for FREE Sample!

NASAL CATARRH

Relieved Instantly! Ended Overnight!

Smear a little NOSTROLINE Nasal Remedy inside each nostril and gently sniff it up. It acts instantly! Opens stuffed-up nasal passages in 30 seconds. Clears Head. Reduces Discharge. Kills Germs. Relieves Sore Throat. Ends Congestion. Soothes Soreness. Stops Wheezing, Hawking, Sniffing. IT MUST BE "NOSTROLINE" for Catarrh, Head Colds, 'Flu, Head Noises, Catarrh-Deafness. Perfectly safe. 1/3 all Chemists.

NOSTROLINE Nasal Remedy

Free Sample from "NOSTROLINE," J.70, Bristol, 8.

TAKE PURITAN SALTS FOR RHEUMATISM

PILES

A Doctor's Formula Gives Prompt Relief and Certain Cure.

The danger of Piles is not readily understood because the trouble is seldom talked about, but you can't mistake the symptoms. That heavy, dragging, "bearing-down," which saps your energy and makes it impossible for you to give your mind to your work; swelling, pain and a burning irritation which nothing seems to relieve; hæmorrhage and protrusion.

The **MAGIC BRAND PILE CURE**—a doctor's formula—can be relied upon to give instant relief and permanently heal, even when the piles are so swollen and bleed so alarmingly that an operation seems inevitable. Thousands of former sufferers are grateful to the **MAGIC PILE CURE** for their present good health.

"I received greater relief from your Magic Pile cure in one week than during 10 years of treatment in hospital."—A.S., Guildford.

Piles undermine the system both mentally and physically; surgical methods are unnecessary and unwise. If you are suffering from any form of rectal trouble, be persuaded to try **MAGIC PILE CURE.** The first application of this soothing treatment will reduce protrusions, check irritation and hæmorrhage, and rapidly heal, no matter how stubborn or long-standing the case may be. So why continue to suffer?

FREE SAMPLE gladly sent on request to—

MAGIC LABORATORIES, H.N.10, NEW COURT, FARRINGDON STREET, LONDON, E.C.4.

"JOHN BULL" is the only paper in the world to safeguard your household effects against damage by FIRE, STORM, FLOOD and TEMPEST. IF YOU HAVE NOT SIGNED FOR SAFETY, FILL UP THE FORMS BELOW AT ONCE FOR "JOHN BULL'S" GREAT FREE FAMILY INSURANCE GIFT.

SIGN TO-DAY

JOHN BULL

Hand this Form to Your Newsagent

To (Name of Newsagent).....

Address.....

.....

Please deliver or reserve JOHN BULL for me weekly until further notice.

Signature .....

Address .....

.....

..... Date.....

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY.

J.B. 10/12/38.

CUT HERE

Post this Form to

"John Bull," Registration Department, 122, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

I have sent an Order Form to my Newsagent for the regular weekly delivery of JOHN BULL. Please register me as a regular reader.

.....

Reader's Signature.

Age.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Name and Address of Newsagent.

.....

..... Date.....

Use ½d. stamp. Don't seal envelope. A Certificate setting out the full Benefits and Conditions and certifying registration will be sent if ½d. stamped addressed envelope is enclosed for return.

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY. J.B. 10/12/38

Over £6,000 IN £6 WEEKLY PENSION PAYMENTS FROM "JOHN BULL" DURING NEXT 20 YEARS CAN BE YOURS BY ENTERING FOR X-WORD BELOW JOY WIRE—XMAS EVE

£6 WEEKLY

"John Bull's" MONSTER £200 BETWEEN RUNNERS-UP

134

FREE GIFT ENTRY WITH EACH THREE PAID 6P ENTRIES

LAST DAYS TO WIN —HURRY WITH YOUR ENTRY!

ONLY if you seize this Monster Christmas Opportunity AT ONCE can you receive on December 24 a thrilling JOHN BULL Joy Wire announcing, you have won a huge Life Pension of £6 Weekly or staggering fortune of £2,000 cash.

Office manager, woman shopkeeper, commercial traveller, housewife—such are the typical Crossworders who have recently been delighted by big First Prize Joy Wires. Whatever your walk in life, you can climb to the heights of this giant prize-list—*if you hurry!*

Remember that Thursday, December 15, is the Closing Date. This means that your entry for JOHN BULL's sensational Offer, now in its final stages, MUST be posted by Wednesday, December 14. Time is flying, so start on those Life Pension Clues NOW!

ACROSS CLUES

1. Sheep usually dislike going into these
4. Using one may prevent nasty mess
6. One of bargains will attract much custom to stores
7. Not so much in needlessness
9. Sound made by a dove
12. One sometimes suggests that there's something wrong
13. It's occasionally difficult to make one understand what's wanted
15. Some restraint may be advisable if you keep one
20. One may hear some singing in this in musical comedy
21. Is sometimes a gift
22. Very often shot
23. Idle dreamer will probably be lost in

DOWN CLUES

1. Too rarely do we get this of travel in foreign countries
2. Number of previous Clue
3. It's often healthy sign when child is this
5. There may be some useful things in one on car
8. This of river causes anxiety when it's in flood
9. Rugged rock
10. Cap sometimes has one
11. You should be careful how you leave these when you move
14. Stopping in this may well be unbearable
16. Smack may be driven home with
17. Children are given this in many schools
18. Often won by speedy work
19. Many men think of football and other games as though they were these

ADDRESS ENTRY: Crossword No. 134, "John Bull," 57, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. (Comp.).

HERE ARE YOUR FINAL SQUARES

POST BY WED., DEC. 14.

—and retain Bonus Voucher to accompany next week's entry!

Read these Rules—Terms and Conditions on page 37.

1.—Complete puzzle in ordinary ink, not copying-ink or copying-ink pencil. Entry-fee is at the rate of sixpence for each two squares submitted; two squares allowed FREE with each six paid.

2.—Make Postal Order payable to Odhams Press Ltd., and cross it /& Co./; write name and address and date of posting on back of P.O. and fill in the number upon Entry Form. Entry Form to be sent by post as directed (not delivered by hand) to reach us not later than Thursday, Dec. 15, 1938.

No responsibility is accepted for any entry lost, delayed, not delivered, or mislaid, and no correspondence will be entered into.

3.—Should any single letter square be left blank, contain a letter which is not clear, or altered, or not given in ink, the corresponding properly indicated letter on Entry-square alongside will be regarded as entrant's intended letter for both Entry-squares. If entrant's answer cannot be so decided, or such flaws occur in more than one letter square, Entry-square concerned will be disqualified, as will any mutilated coupon.

4.—Winner and winning Puzzle Square will appear in JOHN BULL on sale Thursday, December 29. Should any competitor not announced as a winner believe that he entered a coupon eligible for a share of the First Prize, he must demand a scrutiny by first post Tuesday, January 3, 1939, in accordance with directions given with result and enclosing £1 Scrutiny Fee. Any such scrutiny which may amend the result must be accepted as final. No scrutiny can be conducted in connection with the Runners-up Prize. Accordingly, entries are accepted only on condition that the result of our double adjudication establishing these winners is regarded as final. Merit is established according to the total number of Answers to Clues, both Across and Down, which agree with the winning Puzzle Square.

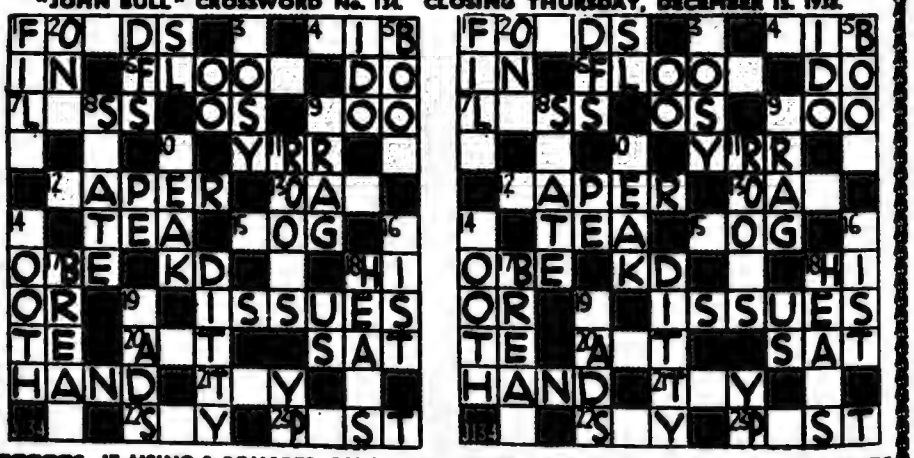
5.—Should the First Prize be shared, £2,000 cash will be paid instead of the Pension Award.

6.—Failure to comply with any of the Rules and Conditions involves disqualification.

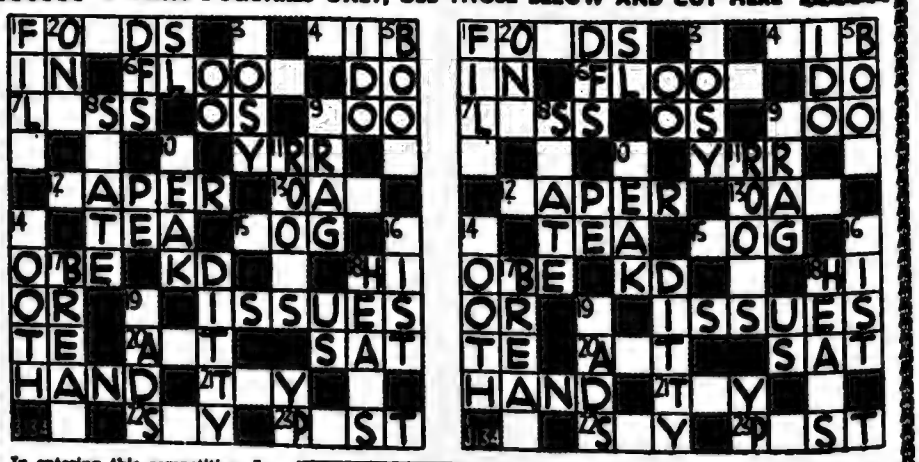
7.—Employees of Odhams Press Ltd. and members of their families are not eligible to compete.

CUT ROUND THIS BORDER

"JOHN BULL" CROSSWORD No. 134. CLOSING THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1938.



IF USING 2 SQUARES ONLY, USE THOSE BELOW AND CUT HERE



In entering this competition, I agree to abide by the rules and conditions as final in all matters and I enclose Postal Order

Value..... No. .....

With 2 squares send P.O. for 6d.

With 4 squares send P.O for 1s.

2 SQUARES 6d.
4 SQUARES 1/-

SIGNED .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

FOR LIFE OR £2,000 Cash

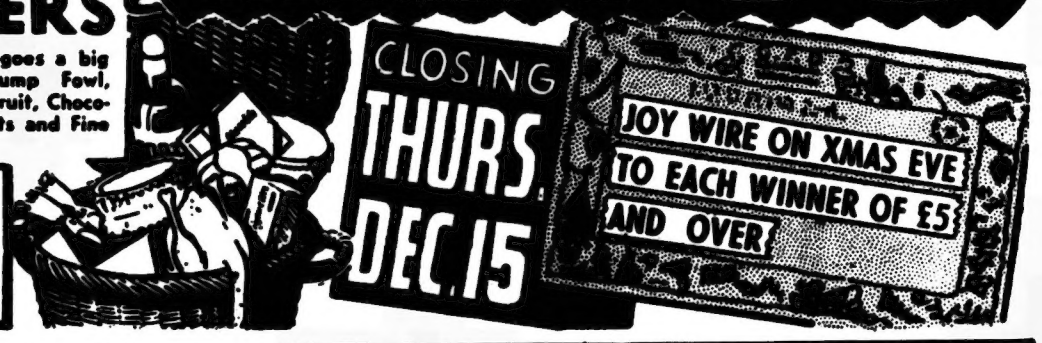
XMAS FIRST PRIZE!

Up to 200 Big HAMPERS

With each prize of £1 and over goes a big 10-in-1 Hamper, containing Plump Fowl, Sausages, Plum Pudding, Cake, Fruit, Chocolates, Cigarettes, Crackers, Biscuits and Fine Old Port.

XMAS BONUS VALUE £2

Presented with each Hamper whose winner submitted entry requiring and accompanied by entry-fee of 1s. 6d. or more.



FREE OPPORTUNITY TO WIN £1,000 CASH!

Each sender of Crossword Entry value 1s. 6d. or over is entitled to enclose one "Bullets" Coupon ABSOLUTELY FREE for current "Bullets" offer on page 43. See also enclosure privilege on "Bullets" page.

CUT ROUND BROKEN LINE

FOR FREE X-WORD AID, ENCLOSE THIS COUPON.

Affix 1½d. Stamp Here	Affix 1½d. Stamp Here

I have affixed 2d. in stamps for postage on "Crossword Gazette" and "Bullets Bulletin." Please arrange:—

(a) A 6 weeks' Free supply.
(b) 6 weeks' extension of my present supply.
(Cross out line which is not applicable.)

Name .....

Address .....

CUT ROUND THIS BORDER

"JOHN BULL" CROSSWORD NO. 134. CLOSING THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1938.

FREE SQUARES BELOW Available only for "John Bull" Crossword No. 134 and if accompanied by paid entries value 1s. 6d.

In entering this competition, I agree to abide by the rules and conditions as final in all matters and I enclose Postal Order

Value..... No. .....

Two squares above FREE if sending 6 squares with P.O. for 1s. 6d.

6 SQUARES 1s. 6d. allowing 2 SQUARES FREE

SIGNED .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

£700 AND XMAS PRIZES GALORE

WON IN CROSSWORD NO. 132

In connection with "John Bull" Crossword No. 132, the Adjudication Committee decided that the entrants who indicated the most meritorious Sets of Answers for one Square (see on right) were the following thirteen competitors:—

Mrs. I. ANTHONY, 15, Peverell Rd., Penzance; G. BARRETT, Room 21, Duke of York's Bldgs., Chelsea, S.W.3; W. HEYHOE, 68, Cambridge Rd., Gloucester, by Airdrie; L. E. CONLAN, 10, Portfield Grove, Terenure, Dublin; R. FRASER, 4, Ayr St., Glasgow, N.; S. HADDOCK, Drombo, Lisburn, Co. Down; MISS M. JOHANNESON, 4, Lancaster Ave., West Norwood, S.E.27; Mrs. L. MATTHEWS, 9, Sullington Way, Shoreham-by-Sea; F. MORAN, 2, William St., Langold, Worksop, Notts; F. M. NEWMAN, 8, Lowson Ave., Grimsby; Mrs. H. I. WYNNES, 21, The Grange, Shilbottle, Alnwick, Northumberland; Mrs. F. THORPE, 12, Saxby St., Leicester; I. WYNNE, 88, Loxton St., Leicester.

Subject to the Terms and Conditions of the Competition, these competitors share the First Prize of £600, and a cheque for £46 3s. 1d. will be sent to each, together with one of the famous "John Bull" Xmas Hampers.

Any other entrant who believes that he submitted an entry eligible for a share of this Prize must demand a Scrutiny by not later than First Post, Tuesday, December 13, sending £1 Scrutiny Fee, copy of all entries submitted and Postal Order number. Envelope to be registered, marked "Scrutiny" and addressed to the Competition Editor of "John Bull."

No scrutiny can be undertaken in connection with the £100 Award to Runners-up. This prize has been divided between 146 competitors from whom we received entries inferior in merit by reason of only one less apt and accurate Answer compared with the best entries received. These winners will each receive 13s. 7d. A list of these Runners-up can be seen at the "John Bull" Offices, and all have been notified.

A useful Surprise Award for each of 673 entrants from whom we received an entry differing from entries of Runners-up by only one less meritorious Answer will be posted this week.

An extra £1 Xmas Bonus Parcel will be sent to every prize-winner who submitted not less than eight squares (or equivalent) in one envelope.

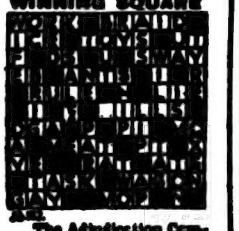
BONUS WINNERS IN CROSSWORD No. 130.

Payments of £2 have been despatched to the 34 Hamper winners in Contest No. 130, who qualified to receive the Extra £2 Cash Bonus.

WINNING WORDS.

ACROSS—1. WORK. 5. BRAID. 4. ICE. 5. TOYS. 10. RULE. 11. MILLS or SILLS. 13. HEAT. 16. RAT. 18. TAST. 20. GAY. 21. HOP.
DOWN—1. WIFE. 2. RED. 3. BOUT. 6. TIRE. 7. SALT. 8. WILL. 9. RRIG. 12. DAY. 13. PARK. 14. OKEH. 17. TWO. 18. TOS.

WINNING SQUARE



The Adjudication Committee decided that the most apt and accurate Answers used by competitors were those seen in the Square above.

One space is left blank to indicate that at this point MILLS and SILLS were regarded as apt Answers of equal merit.

Reasons for Committee's findings will appear in next week's "Crossword Gazette," obtainable by enclosing with your entry the Reservation Coupon on left.

RETAIN THIS BONUS VOUCHER

As a competitor in this Monster Crossword No. 134, you are invited to enclose the Xmas Bonus Voucher below with your Entry for our next Crossword Offer No. 135. Each cash prize-winner in Contest No. 135 who has completed and enclosed the Bonus Voucher as directed will receive a Xmas Bonus Award value £1.

VALUE £1

CUT ROUND THIS BORDER

XMAS BONUS VOUCHER

AVAILABLE ONLY FOR ENCLOSURE WITH ENTRY FOR NEXT X-WORD OFFER No. 135.

I certify that I submitted.....6d. Entries for Monster Pension Crossword Offer No. 134. I now enclose..... 6d. Entries for Crossword No. 135 and, accordingly, claim the Christmas Bonus value £1 with any cash prize that I win in this Contest.

Signed.....

Address .....

.....

Rheumatism

CAUSED BY

Kidney Trouble

Rheumatism is due to impurities and poisons—especially excess uric acid—in the system. Their presence is due to weak or sluggish kidneys. To rid the system of the cause of rheumatism you must strengthen the kidneys. That is what De Witts Brand Kidney and Bladder Pills are specially prepared for. They act at once on the kidneys, restoring them to health.

Within 24 hours after taking the first dose of De Witts Brand Kidney and Bladder Pills you have definite proof that they act on the kidneys, strengthening and restoring them to health. The kidneys then perform their proper work, which is to eliminate the cause of kidney trouble and all its painful symptoms—bad back, urinary disorders, stiff, swollen joints and rheumatic pains. Start with De Witts Pills to-day—your pain will be quickly ended, and further medicine will be quite unnecessary—you will be in perfect health.

DE WITTS BRAND **KIDNEY & BLADDER PILLS**

Cleanse and Strengthen the Kidneys

Specially prepared for weak kidneys, bad back, rheumatism, sciatica, joint pains, lumbago and urinary disorders. Sold by chemists everywhere, price 1/3, 3/- and 5/-

---

Man Zan stops the irritation, soothes and heals internal, external, blind or bleeding piles. A large tube, with special nozzle applicator, which makes this wonderful preparation easy to apply, costs but 3/-. Your chemist will tell you how good it is. Don't suffer in silence longer. Ask him about Man Zan Brand Pile Remedy.

YOUR INDIGESTION

is the Most Important Thing in the World

Those who suffer the nagging torture of gastritis and dyspepsia know that nothing in the world is so important as to get relief from that dreadful pain. Yet so many carry on, neglecting Nature's warning—stomach pains, wind, heartburn, palpitation, biliousness and dizziness—until they gradually get to a state of chronic dyspepsia or gastritis.

Because indigestion is of such vital importance to you, let us tell you how others have gained instant relief from digestive misery by taking De Witt's Antacid Powder. Here is just one typical case.

"About three years ago I had a very bad attack of gastric catarrh, which made me feel as though an iron band was twisted round my stomach. The distension, caused by the flatulence, was agonising. I saw an advertisement for De Witt's Antacid Powder, I bought a canister, and by the time I had finished it I could eat without any discomforting after-effects whatsoever."

(Signed) S. J. KITE.
140, North Street, Barking, Essex.

De Witt's Antacid Powder soothes and protects the delicate stomach lining, and so stimulates and protects the whole digestive system that digestive troubles end completely.

DE WITT'S Antacid Powder

the quick-action remedy for Indigestion, Acid Stomach, Flatulence, Dyspepsia, Palpitation, Heartburn, Gastritis and all Stomachic Affections. Of all Chemists, price 1/6, double size, 2/6.

IF you are troubled by any matter—except, of course, of a medical nature—you can obtain free expert advice that will help you.

A stamped, addressed envelope is all that you have to send with your query, which should be written in ink. Write to-day, marking your envelope "Free Advice." The replies given here to facetious correspondents are for your entertainment.

The Editor Laughs Last

"Bullets" Illustrated: New Policeman—"Big Cheese" Smelling Rats

NOVELIST (Bath).—"I had a narrow escape from drowning at the seaside this year." Writer's cramp?

H. J. (Runcorn).—"Kleptomania is a terrible disease, isn't it?" Yes. Victims are always taking something for it.

MR. L. (Dewsbury).—"My wife openly says that she had never met anybody who tries more than I do." See letter below.

MRS. L. (Dewsbury).—"With his constant grumbling and complaints, I find my husband extremely trying." See letter above.

G. R. (Leicester).—"I am definitely the boss in my own house." We assume that your wife's away from home at the moment.

P. L. (Faversham).—"Once, in camp, I went to bed with my spurs on." A good job you were not at home—your wife would have been terribly cut up about it.

FED-UP (Lincoln).—"I've come to the conclusion that this is a very hard world indeed." That's what the navvy said when he put his pick into it.

T. Y. (Rugeley).—"My neighbour has a passion for washing his car down. He's always doing it." We knew a man like that and he went clean mad.

S. S. (Brentford).—"My wife complains that I talk in my sleep. What do you suggest I do?" Nothing that you shouldn't.

J. J. (Leeds).—The American police box, wrestle, play football, baseball and squash rackets." Squashing rackets, of course, comes under the heading of duties.

G. D. (Crayford). — "Since I started three years ago, I have made £1,000, and it is all due to one man." Why not let him have it?

K. H. (Tamworth).—"No kiddies' party is really complete just now without a Christmas tree." A lot certainly does hang on it.

MRS. S. (Betchworth).—"I learnt recently how to make an apple tart." A simple method is to squeeze a lemon over it.

C. M. (Boston).—"A bargain is satisfactory only when both parties are sure they have done well out of the transaction." A good deal depends on this.

W. P. (Morden). — "Where I was stationed in Africa, a man's wealth is computed from the number of wives he has." Well, that's one place where a man's wife is always a credit to him.

R. E. (Fenton).—"My wife pestered me for weeks for a new dress, and now she's chosen one I hate—it is lemon-coloured all over." Well, she had a job squeezing it out of you.

H. N. (Bootle).—"My wife eyed me as if she considered my excuses for being late home were a bit thin." Or a bit thick?

F. D. (Stockport).—"I object to my girls using powder in the office." But no doubt a lot of it still goes on behind your back.

R. V. S. (London, N.).—"During the first week at our new house we had the curate for tea." Sheer cannibalism!

DOCTOR (London, S.W.).—"Jealousy tends to encourage an acid condition in the system." Sufferers should, therefore, avoid sour grapes.

W. L. (Ashford).—"He is the proprietor of a large chain of stores in the U.S., and started as a grocer's boy." Now at the top of the tree—branches everywhere.

O. P. (Sutton).—"One never sees a bow-legged policeman." Of course not. Two-seaters might sneak through when he was holding up the traffic.

G. M. (Preston).—"I have told both my nieces that they will have a fiver from me this Christmas, and what do you think my young nephew is getting?" More polite than usual.

B. T. (Brentwood).—"Arguing with one's wife leads nowhere." Tried arguing with yours over Crossword Clues? That's how several of our 38 Pensioners scored—and it can lead you to that £6 Weekly Pension on pages 40 and 41.

S. D. (Oswestry). — "Insomnia is the result of progress, and was unknown four hundred years ago." That explains how Queen Elizabeth managed to sleep in some of those beds we have been shown.

E. L. (Frinton).—"If an Eskimo woman says she wants a new fur coat, her husband goes out with his spear and gets her one." If an Englishwoman says she wants a new fur coat, her husband probably just goes out.

(Many replies unavoidably held over)

Side-Slips

Examples of unconscious humour from the current Press are welcomed. Actual cuttings must be sent. 2/6 is paid to the sender of each item published. Mark envelope "Side-Slips." When the same "Slip" is submitted by more than one person, that which arrives with the earliest postmark receives the award.

EVENING STANDARD: — "To say nothing of Piccadilly Circus, the PUB of the Empire."

SOUTH WALES ARGUS:—". . . there is nothing better than massage, but this MESSAGE should be given in the form of tapping, not rubbing."

SOUTH WALES ECHO AND EXPRESS:—MARTIAL differences resulting in the bankruptcy of a well-known South Wales dance band leader . . ."

DAILY MAIL:—"Miss N—— won by 9—4, 9—1, 9—2, through cleverness and GUILT."

WEST WALES OBSERVER: — "The pupils were widely DILUTED, and his voice very thick."

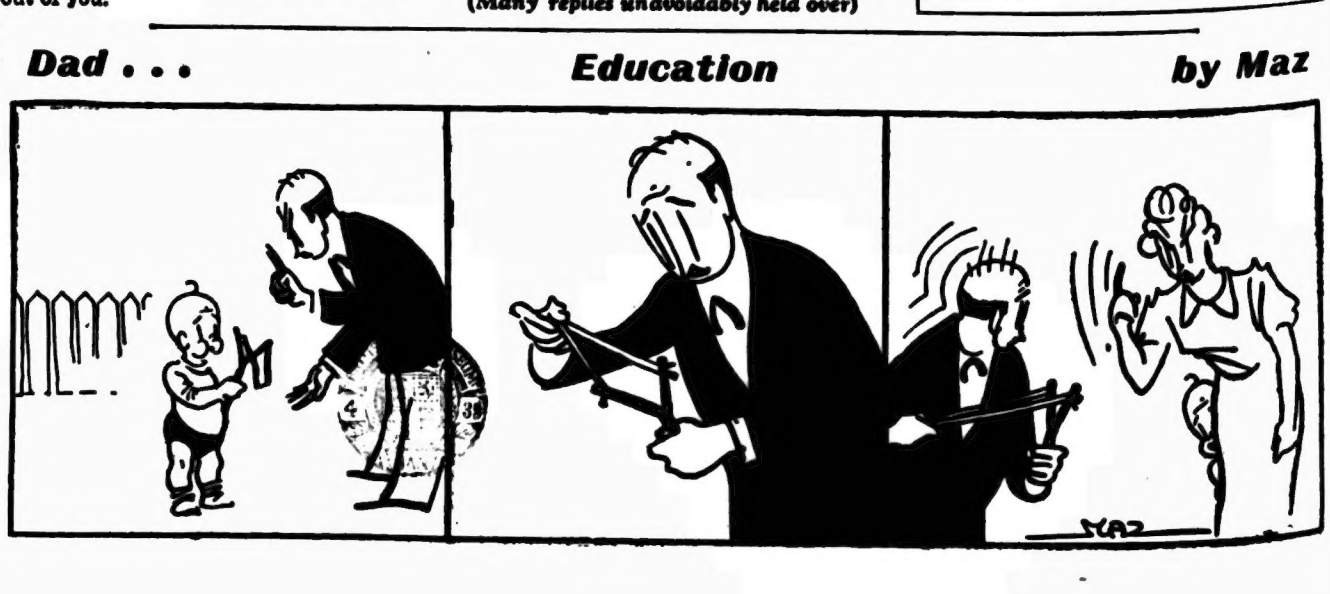
SOUTH WALES FOOTBALL ECHO AND EXPRESS:—". . . which ended with M—— having his shot DEFLATED for a fruitless corner."

TIT-BITS:—"Quite a number of things may be found in three MOTHS if you look for them."

GLAMORGAN GAZETTE:—"Mr. E—— was also charged with exposing for sale four pieces of cooked bacon unfit for human HABITATION."

DAILY EXPRESS:—". . . who fired six SHOES at him, wounding his chauffeur."

Dad . . . **Education** **by Maz**



HURRY WITH YOUR ENTRY FOR "BULLETS" XMAS MONSTER

£1,000 MUST BE WON

£250

BULLETS No. 1150 FIRST PRIZE

The £250 First Prize efforts in Contests Nos. 1,148, 1,149 and 1,150 will be considered together and entrant of best of these will receive £750 extra Thus £1,000 must be won outright—and you can capture it with a coupon below.

£25	£10	£9	£8	
£7	£6	£5	£4	£3

10 of £2-10

CLOSING POSTMARK SAT. DEC. 17

50 Big HAMPERS

200 2-in-1 SURPRISE AWARDS | THOUSANDS OF OTHER AWARDS

"BULLETS" 1,146 RESULT

First Prize: £1,000—or £2 Weekly for Life, plus £300 and 8 Xmas Presentations:

R. G. PATTERSON, 30, Breck Road. Anfield, Liverpool.

Example: WORLD OF HAPPINESS
Bullet: MAKE-BELIEVE? MAKE BY LOVE! (Entered on Prize coupon.)

SECOND PRIZE, £50:

H. NEWNS, 21, Gairloch Avenue, Stretford, Manchester.

Example: Mother's Gift
Bullet: "Ministry" That's *Never* Wasteful.

THIRD PRIZE, £25:

D. ANDREWS, 46, Bower Lane, Maidstone, Kent.

Example: Dad's Pint
Bullet: Like Giving Camel Raindrop!

OTHER PRIZES:

£10: Mrs. M. BERRY, 682, Chorley Road, Westhoughton, nr. Bolton.
Britain's Business — "Stolen" While "Policing" World!

£9: H. P. STORRY, 12, Fairacres Road, Bebington, Cheshire.
To Keep Her—Wedding-ring, "Poor Wife's" Problem.

£8: Mrs. M. A. POOLE, Sydney House, Romilly Road, Barry, Glam.
If You Can—Whistle, Pessimism "To Heel." (Entered on Prize coupon.)

£7: Miss K. G. WILSON, Dedham, nr. Colchester.
To Keep Her—Race Pure, Germany's Defiled.

£6: H. BARNES, 5, Garvary Road, Custom House, London, E
In The Window—Germany's Armaments—In Wind——?

£5: H. TOMKINSON, Imperial Chambers, Crewe.
In The Window—"Mein Kampf"—Alongside Kipling!

£4: J. ROBERTS, 19, Cemetery Road, Doncaster.
To Keep Her—*Harder* When Wife's Self-supporting.

£3: Mrs. G. KIRK, 18, Taunton Street, Swindon.
Man Underneath—Through Studying "Who's Up?"

TEN OF £2 10s. EACH:

J. R. BEAUMONT, "Byways," Woolsington, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Britain's Business—*Dropping* Till We *Work*.

G. J. HOUSE, 22, Vale Road, Parkstone, Dorset.
Sea Of Adversity—Entered, Leaving "Morning Stream."

T. S. IREMONGER, Curringe, Newbury, Berks.
Man Underneath—Aumtie's Wing, "Sky-pilot." (Entered on Prize coupon.)

A. T. JENKINS, 98, Chadwell Heath Lane, Chadwell Heath.
It's A Hard Fight, But—Eventually Territorials Get Gun!

F. D. MERRALLS, Lynchmere Green, Haslemere, Surrey.
It's A Hard Fight, But—"Laying Yourself Out" Wins.

J. W. RICHENS, 49, Swallands Road, Bellingham, S.E.
Youth Demands—"Gateways"—Grandpa Climbed "Hurdles."

J. ROE, The Bungalow, Florence Road, Clay Cross, nr. Chesterfield.
To Celebrate Christmas—Fat Chance—"Fattening" Chancellor!

Miss G. E. SEPPINGS, West End, Wilburton, Ely, Cambs.
To Celebrate Christmas—German Housewife Thickens Soup!

M. SHORE, The Spinnaker, Ethelbert Road, Birchington.
Sea Of Adversity—Strains "Screw"—Trains "Crew."

G. TWINING, 10, Bisley Grove, Birmingham.
World Of Happiness—Glowering Going—Glowing Growing.

Each of the above winners up to £10 will also receive a 12s. 6d. Xmas Cake.
A list of 100 other Xmas Cake Winners can be seen at these offices.

The original cheque for £250 chosen by the First Prize-winner in Competition No. 1,125 will be displayed in the window of Mr. A. Wilson, High Street, Ayr, Ayrshire.

A HOUSE or business of your own, a car, a glorious holiday next summer, better education for your children, a nest-egg for your old age—all these can now be yours in exchange for a few simple words on a coupon from this page!

Dozens of JOHN BULL readers have already won four-figure fortunes with neat *Bullets*, and here is your opportunity to follow them to success.

A hutch of big cheques adds extra attraction to this giant opportunity—and these are followed by 50 of the famous JOHN BULL 10-in-1 Hampers and thousands of other prizes, all to be won in a single week. Begin on your *Bullets* as soon as you have read through the following simple instructions.

To make a prize *Bullet*, simply take an *Example* and make a rough note of any idea it suggests. Then improve this to TWO, THREE or FOUR words of apt and original comment, closely linked with the *Example*.

For instance, against the *Example*, TAXATION SNOWBALL, you might jot down, *Necessary To Make Our Defences Strong*. From this you could easily produce the typical *Bullet*, TAXATION SNOWBALL—BETTER THAN BOMBERS' "RAIN."

Start on the *Examples* as soon as you have studied the leading efforts in our 1,146th Contest on this page, for your *Bullets* must be posted on or before Saturday, December 17.

Add 2, 3 or 4 words to any "Example"

BABY 1939
WHAT LOVE MEANS
NEVILLE'S GOAL
TO MAKE A MILLION
TAXATION SNOWBALL
HAD A GOOD MANY
NEEDS MORE
BEFORE SHE'S FINISHED
WIDE-AWAKE MEMBER
DEAFENING
TRUSTING TO LUCK
WHEN MARRIED
IF LOOKS COULD KILL
CHAP I HATE
RISING TIDE
DAD WENT TO THE DENTIST AND
CIVILISATION'S CAR
SERVING THE NATION
DICTATOR MARS
BURDEN OF ARMAMENTS
BLOW FOR THE GOVERNMENT
HURTS MOTHER
TO PROLONG LIFE
PROCESSION OF THE YEARS

EXAMPLE
BULLET
EXAMPLE
BULLET

(1,150) Closing postmark SAT., Dec. 17.

P.O. No. .....

I agree to enter in accordance with the rules announced on this page. With 1 Coupon send P.O. for 6d.

Signed .....

Address .....

EXAMPLE
BULLET
EXAMPLE
BULLET

(1,150) Closing postmark SAT., Dec. 17.

P.O. No. .....

I agree to enter in accordance with the rules announced on this page. With 2 Coupons send P.O. for 1s.

Signed .....

Address .....

EXAMPLE
BULLET
EXAMPLE
BULLET

(1,150) Closing postmark SAT., Dec. 17.

P.O. No. .....

I agree to enter in accordance with the rules announced on this page. With 3 Coupons send P.O. for 1s. 6d.

Signed .....

Address .....

FREE COUPON FOR THIS COMPETITION IF USED AS INSTRUCTED BELOW

EXAMPLE
BULLET
EXAMPLE
BULLET

FREE PRIVILEGE ENTRY

I enclose TWO or more paid (or prize) coupons for Bullets No. 1,150, all entered in same name and address, entitling me to this coupon FREE.

Signed .....

Address .....

Should you wish to enter further "Bullets" you can write them on plain paper.

NEWSAGENTS' PRIZES.—Cheques for £5, £2 and £1 respectively will be paid to the newsagents from whom the chief winners in "Bullets" No. 1,150 usually purchase "John Bull."

READ THESE RULES CAREFULLY.

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the judges in consultation with the Editor, is the best Bullet received and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

2. Only two attempts may be written on each coupon and a postal order must be enclosed at the rate of 6d. for each coupon made use of. This must be made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed /& Co./. Entrant's name, address and date of posting must be written on back of postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Coupons must not be mutilated.

3. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry. Employees of Odhams Press Ltd. and their families are not eligible.

Save Money on Entries With your *Bullets* entry you may now enclose Crossword entry, with single postal order sufficient to cover both entry-fees, thus saving 2½d. on poundage and postage. Make postal order payable to JOHN BULL, address joint entry envelope "Bullets" No. 1,150 and Crossword No. 134, JOHN BULL, Long Acre, London W.C.2, marking it "B and C" in top left-hand corner.

Address Entry: "Bullets" No. 1,150, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2 (Comp)

HOW CAN SHE RUN HER HOME when SHE CAN HARDLY WALK HERSELF ?

Take Elasto The Wonder Tablet — and Stop Limping!

REGISTERED

DON'T let leg troubles cripple you. Take Elasto, the Great New Biomedical Remedy *that cures through the blood*, and have done with enforced rest, worry, suffering and expense. Leg aches and pains soon vanish when Elasto is taken. Painful, swollen (varicose) veins are restored to a healthy condition, skin troubles clear up, leg wounds (bad leg) become clean and healthy and quickly heal, inflammation and irritation are soothed, piles disappear, rheumatism simply fades away and the whole system is braced and strengthened. This is not magic, *although the relief does seem magical*; it is the natural result of revitalised blood and improved circulation brought about by Elasto—*the tiny tablet with wonderful healing powers.*

Everybody is asking — What is Elasto?

This question is fully answered in an interesting Booklet, which explains in simple language this amazing new method of *curing through the blood.* Your copy is Free, together with a generous Free Sample (see coupon below). Suffice it to say here that Elasto is not a drug, but a vital cell-food which must be present in the blood to ensure complete health. It restores to the blood the vital elements which combine with the blood albumin to form organic elastic tissue and thus enables *Nature* to restore elasticity to the broken-down and devitalised fabric of veins, arteries and heart, and so to re-establish normal, healthy circulation, *without which there can be no true healing!* The health of every organ and tissue of the body depends upon healthy cellular activity, and to ensure this, vigorously circulating, oxygen-rich blood is absolutely essential. NINE TIMES OUT OF TEN THE REAL TROUBLE IS BAD CIRCULATION.

Give Her Health This Xmas: Give Her Elasto!

ELASTO is something new to curative science. Nothing even remotely resembling this new Biomedical remedy has ever been offered to the general public before. Post the Coupon below for your Free Sample and Booklet. You cannot realise how simple, pleasant and effective Elasto is until you have tried it yourself. Elasto benefits the whole system.

Read what users of Elasto say!

"*Varicose Veins quickly cured after 12 years of useless bandaging.*"
"*Now walk long distances with ease.*"
"*Had rheumatism so badly I could hardly walk, but Elasto cured me.*"
"*I attribute my recovery from rheumatoid arthritis solely to Elasto.*"
"*Now free from piles.*"
"*Suffered for years from a weak heart, but Elasto cured me.*"
"*After being indoors for 18 months, I can now walk quite well. My heart is stronger and all the pain has left my legs.*"
"*Elasto has cured my bad leg.*"
"*The swelling from ankles to thighs has entirely gone, and I can do a full day's work keeping on my legs all day.*"
"*I have suffered years of agony with varicose veins and phlebitis, but thanks to Elasto, my leg is now completely cured.*"
"*The stinging sensation I used to get in my left arm and leg (arterio-sclerosis) is quite gone and my general health is much improved.*"
"*My skin is as soft as velvet, thanks to Elasto.*"
"*It is wonderful to be free from that terrible pain and to be able to walk upstairs without getting short of breath.*"
"*I was in awful agony and could not walk. My family and friends are astounded; the results are magic.*"
"*I was in terrible agony with arthritis, almost crippled, but Elasto cured me.*"
"*Rheumatoid arthritis gone, I have never felt better.*"
"*Lumbago cured after three years of suffering, age 66.*"
"*Cured my sciatica 12 months ago, still quite fit.*"
"*I was confined to my bed with phlebitis, without hope of ever getting out again. My doctor says I owe my life to Elasto.*"
"*Elasto has quite cured my eczema.*"
"*My piles are gone, my legs are better and I feel better in my general health.*"
Etc.

THESE extracts are taken from letters received from grateful people who KNOW, who have tested and proved for themselves the extraordinary health-restoring powers of ELASTO, the wonderful new Biomedical remedy. We guarantee the authenticity of every extract quoted.

Elasto
Tablets
ELASTO RESTORES THE NATURAL POWER OF HEALING TO THE BLOOD.
The NEW ERA TREATMENT CO. LTD
CECIL HOUSE HOLBORN VIADUCT
LONDON. E.C.1.

For the Blood, Veins, Arteries, And Heart!

It Acts Like Magic!

FREE

A Generous Sample of this Wonder Remedy

Fill In This Coupon

for a Free Sample and a Free Booklet fully explaining Elasto, the New Biomedical Remedy. These, with copies of recent testimonials, we will gladly send privately, post free. Don't lose another moment! Write for these to-day —NOW, while you think of it, and see for yourself what a wonderful difference Elasto makes!!

This offer is too good to be missed! ★

ELASTO (DEPT. 15.D). CECIL HOUSE, HOLBORN VIADUCT. LONDON, E.C.

JOHN BULL COUPON

for Free Trial Sample of Elasto ★

ELASTO (Dept. 15.D), Cecil House, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C.1.

Please send me Free Sample and Special Free Booklet fully explaining how Elasto, the Great Blood Revitalizer, cures through the Blood.

NAME.....
(Please print in Capital Letters.)

ADDRESS.....

.....

.....

J.B. No. 101238. *Issued by The New Era Treatment Co., Ltd.*

Elasto will save you pounds!

J.B.L.49 36★

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B153 A314 J.B. 10-12-38